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Report of the Honors Program and Visiting Scholars Committee: Sections: 8.60.10 - 8.65.13 of the University Manual

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND Kingston, Rhode Island

FACULTY SENATE BILL

Adopted by the Faculty Senate

TO: President Frank Newman

FROM: Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

1. The attached BILL, titled <u>Report of the Honors Program and Visiting</u>

Scholars Committee: Sections: 8,60,10 - 8,65,13 of the University Manual

is forwarded for your consideration.

2. The original and two copies for your use are included.

- 3. This BILL was adopted by vote of the Faculty Senate on May 13, 1982
- 4. After considering this bill, will you please indicate your approval or disapproval. Return the original or forward it to the Board of Regents, completing the appropriate endorsement below.
- 5. In accordance with Section 10, paragraph 4 of the Senate's By-Laws, this bill will become effective on <u>June 3, 1982</u> (date), three weeks after Senate approval, unless: (1) specific dates for implementation are written into the bill; (2) you return it disapproved; (3) you forward it to the Board of Regents for their approval; or (4) the University Faculty petitions for a referendum. If the bill is forwarded to the Board of Regents, it will not become effective until approved by the Board.

May 14, 1982 (date)

(date)

Niels West Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

ENDORSEMENT

TO: Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

FROM: President of the University

Approved

1. Returned.

b .

2. a.

Approved subject to final approval by Board of Regents

с. Disapproved

6/24/82-(date)

F. Turnan

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND Kingston, Rhode Island

FACULTY SENATE

REPORT OF THE HONORS PROGRAM AND VISITING SCHOLARS COMMITTEE

April 22, 1982

The Honors Program and Visiting Scholars Committee has revised* those sections of the <u>University Manual</u> which concern the Honors Program in order to reflect the Honors Program legislation approved by the Faculty Senate in 1980 and amended in 1982. Most of the revised sections follow directly the language of the approved legislation. These sections are presented to the Faculty Senate for information. Proposed Manual sections <u>8.60.10-15</u> and changes in sections <u>4.40-4.43</u> of the Faculty Senate By-Laws have not been legislated previously and require approval by the Faculty Senate.

The Honors Program and Visiting Scholars Committee recommends the following:

- That the Faculty Senate approve the proposed new sections 8.60-10-15 of the <u>University Manual</u> which appear as Part I of this report.
- That the Faculty Senate approve proposed sections 4.40-4.43 of the By-Laws of the Faculty Senate which appear as Part III of this report.**

PART I: ACTION

Proposed Changes in Chapter 8

8.60.10 Honors Program: Objectives. The principal objectives of the Honors Program shall be:

8.60.11 To provide for the development and maintenance of an intellectual community of scholars, students, artists and interested faculty.

8.60.12 To provide intellectual excitment and reward to all participants, both students and faculty.

8.60.13 To provide for examination of and training in critical, creative and integrative thinking.

8.60.14 To provide students with opportunities to broaden their intellectual development and to become engaged in more sophisticated inquiry in their major fields of study than would normally be possible.

* We wish to acknowledge Mr. Demitroff's considerable contribution to the revision.

** Changes in the By-Laws require 2/3 majority vote and may not be voted upon at the meeting at which they are first moved. $\frac{8.60.15}{10}$ To require a series of defined intellectual products at each level to provide students with vehicles for practicing the skills and forms of thinking they have learned and to otherwise express their intellectual accomplishments.

PART II: INFORMATION

8.61.10 Content. The Honors Program shall consist of four years of integrated course work, as follows:

8.61.11 First year (freshmen) offerings shall be general courses one semester in length. They shall be courses specifically created for the program or existing courses that have been modified to serve its purposes. These courses shall be taught by URI or emeriti faculty and may enroll up to fifteen students each. No more than fifteen such courses, divided approximately evenly between semesters, shall be offered in a year. These courses may be offered for one to three credits.

8.61.12 The second year (sophomore) offering shall be an interdisciplinary, two semester colloquium. URI faculty shall serve as coordinators for the colloquia. Outside lecturers shall also participate in the presentations. Emeriti professors also may participate. The size of the student enrollment shall be specified yearly. Three credits may be earned each semester for participation in the colloquium.

<u>8.61.13</u> Third year (junior) offerings shall be tutorial courses organized by discipline or college or by groups of disciplines and/or colleges. These tutorials shall be semester long courses taught by URI or emeriti faculty. Enrollment in each tutorial shall be limited to <u>six</u> students unless the instructor considers a larger number essential. Tutorials shall ordinarly by offered for three credits. However, in special circumstances they may be offered for one or two credits each semester as part of a three credit course which extends throughout a year.

8.61.14 Fourth year (senior) offerings shall consist of honors projects which culminate in major papers or other significant intellectual products, or special seminars which integrate substance or explore ideas. Projects and seminars shall extend through the academic year. However, especially well qualified students may begin projects in the last semester of their third year. Honors projects shall be directed by URI faculty. Special seminars may be tauoht by URI or emeritifaculty and shall be offered for six credits.

8.62.10 Eligibility. Eligibility standards for each level of the program shall be determined on a yearly basis by the Honors Program and Visiting Scholars Committee and the standards for each year shall be announced by February 1st of the preceding academic year. Students who do not meet the announced standards may petition for admission to the program or for retention in it if they have already taken part in the program. <u>8.62.11</u> Eligible students may participate at any level in the Honors Program. Students who wish to complete the program and receive the transcript notation must begin their participation no later than the beginning of the 3rd year in the undergraduate program. Students who enter the program at the 3rd year may register for a semester of the Honors Colloquium.

8.62.12 To participate in an honors project, a student must receive the endorsement of his/her respective department and academic dean.

8.63.10 Requirements. Students must complete at least 15 credits of course work in the Honors Program, and attain a QPA of 3.3 or better for these courses as well as a 3.0 QPA overall, in order to graduate with honors.

<u>8.63.11</u> These courses shall include: (1) two semesters (6 credits) of work from courses offered in the 1st and 2nd years of the program including one semester (3 credits) of the Honors Colloquium; and (2) three semesters of work offered in the 3rd and 4th years of the program including one semester of 3rd year tutorial (3 credits) and two semesters of the 4th year honors project or special seminar (6 credits).

8.63.12 The Registrar shall enter on the transcript of students who meet requirements: "Completed the University Honors Program."

8.64.10 Program Direction and Development. The Honors Program and Visiting Scholars Committee shall be responsible to direct and develop the Honors Program.

8.64.11 It shall approve all courses offered in the Honors Program and the instructors for them. No faculty member shall be compelled against his/her will to teach in the Honors Program including the direction of honors projects.

8.64.13 It shall establish general standards for students' performance and productivity in Honors Program courses.

8.64.14 It shall conduct periodic evaluations of the effectiveness of the Honors Program and its separate components.

8.64.15 It shall review the specific programs submitted by participating departments and colleges. These reviews shall insure that the separate programs meet the requirements of the Honors Program.

8.65.10 Department and College Responsibilities. University College advisers and the chairpersons of departments shall inform eligible students within University College and their departments respectively about the Honors Program.

8.65.11 Departments and colleges may develop specific programs which complement the Honors Program. Participating departments shall submit to the Honors Program and Visiting Scholars Committee descriptions of their separate program for approval.

 $\underline{8.65.12}$ Neither departments nor colleges may establish requirements that prohibit eligible students majoring in their departments or colleges from participating in the Honors Program.

 $\underline{8.65.13}$ Department chairpersons shall consider Honors Program courses when scheduling teaching loads.

CART ITT: ACTION

Proposed Changes in Faculty Senate By-Laws

4.40 The Honors Program and Visiting Scholars Committee. This committee shall supervise the Honors Program (See Chapter 8, Academic Programs, Sections 8,60.10-8,65.13) and bring distinguished scholars to the campus for general lectures and/or other public programs.

4.41 The committee's powers and responsibilities with respect to supervision of the Honors Program are set forth in Chapter 8, "Academic Programs," Sections 8.64.10-8.64.14. In addition, the committee shall recommend to the Faculty Senate changes in the Honors Program as they appear desirable.

4.42 The Honors Program shall be administered by a Director selected from the University faculty. This faculty member shall be released from one half of his/ her normal duties and shall be compensated for work done during summers. Normal duties shall include, but not be restricted to, teaching, assigned research, advisement, committee work and thesis direction. The director shall be responsible for the overall management of the Honors Porgram and may serve as chair-person of the committee.

4.43 The faculty member who serves as coordinator for the Honors Colloquium shall be released from one half of his/her normal duties during the academic year and compensated for preparatory work done during the summer preceding the offering of the Colloquium. If two or more persons serve as coordinators the equivalent amount of release time and summer compensation shall be divided between/among them. Normal duties shall include, but not be restricted to, teaching, assigned research, advisement, committee work and thesis direction. The coordinator(s) shall be responsible for the overall conduct of the colloquium but its content and the method of presentation shall be reviewed by the committee.

4.44 The committee shall arrange the distinguished scholars series so that a variety of topics is presented each year, and it shall invite to the campus promising younger teachers and scholars as well as those with national reputations. The series shall, as much as possible, be coordinated with the public programs of the Honors Colloquium and other courses offered within the Honors Program.

-22.

Members of the Committee

Brian Bresnahan, Und. Stu. Agnes Doody, SPE, Ex officio David Ketner, ART Jordan Miller, ENG William Rosen, CHM Janice Sieburth, LIB Domenic Valentino, PSY Stephen B. Wood, PSC, Chair

-21-