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Honors Program and Visiting Scholar Committee Report, Changes to Manual Sections: 8.60.10 – 8.65.13.

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate, "Honors Program and Visiting Scholar Committee Report, Changes to Manual Sections: 8.60.10 – 8.65.13." (2017). *Faculty Senate Bills*. Paper 2223.
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Serial Number #16-17—15

TO: President David Dooley
FROM: W. Michael Sullivan, Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

1. The attached BILL titled, Honors Program and Visiting Scholar Committee Report, Changes to Manual Sections: 8.60.10 – 8.65.13, is forwarded for your consideration.
2. This BILL was adopted by vote of the Faculty Senate on January 26, 2017.
3. After considering this bill, will you please indicate your approval or disapproval. Return the original, completing the appropriate endorsement below.
4. In accordance with Section 10, paragraph 4 of the Senate's By-Laws, this bill will become effective February 16, 2017 three weeks after Senate approval, unless: (1) specific dates for implementation are written into the bill; (2) you return it disapproved; or (3) the University Faculty petitions for a referendum.



W. Michael Sullivan
Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

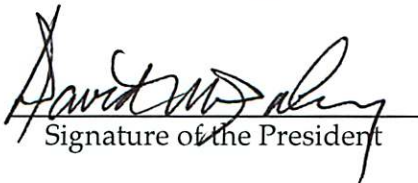
January 26, 2017

ENDORSEMENT

TO: Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

FROM: President of the University

- a. Approved .
- b. Approved subject to Notice of the Council on Postsecondary Education ____.
- c. Disapproved ____.



Signature of the President

2.1.17
(date)

Honors Program and Visiting Scholars Committee Annual Report 2015-2016

Presented to the Faculty Senate, January 26, 2017

The Honors Program and Visiting Scholars Committee recommends approval of the following:

1) Adopt the following eligibility standards

Students may participate in the Honors Program if they meet the following standards: Sophomores, juniors, and seniors must have earned at least a 3.40 cumulative grade point average at URI; transfer students must have received a GPA of 3.40 or better at their previous institution to be eligible for honors courses. Incoming freshmen are invited to participate in the Honors Program based on one of the following: they must have earned a grade point average of 3.50 or higher in high school and must have a combined score of 1,300 on the critical reading and math portions of the SAT exam: Or they must have earned a 3.80 GPA in high school, and SAT scores are not considered.

2) Change University Manual sections 8.60.10 - 8.65.13

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

~~8.60.11 To provide for the development and maintain maintenance of an interdisciplinary intellectual community; to stimulate intellectual of scholars, students, artists and interested faculty.~~

~~8.60.12 To provide intellectual excitement for and reward to all participants; both students and faculty to inspire and enhance~~

~~8.60.13 To provide for examination of and training in critical, creative, and integrative thinking; and to foster~~ :

~~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.~~

~~8.60.15 To provide students a series of defined intellectual products at each level as vehicles for practicing the skills and forms of thinking they have learned and to otherwise express their intellectual accomplishments.~~

8.61.10 Content. The Honors Program curriculum shall consist of four years of course work at the undergraduate level, integrated as follows:

~~8.61.11 100- and 200--level 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, and. These courses shall be taught by URI or emeriti faculty and may enroll up to 20 fifteen students each. No more than fifteen such courses, divided approximately evenly between semesters, shall be offered in a year. Except for the Analytical Thinking Skills courses which are for three credits, 100- and 200-level honors courses may be offered for one to four credits. Enrollment preference in 100-level honors courses shall be given to first year students/reshmen.~~

~~8.61.12 At theThe 200-level, the Honors program shall offering shall be an interdisciplinary, one semester colloquium. URI faculty and/or staff shall serve as coordinators for the colloquia. Outside lecturers and eshall also participate in the presentations. Emeriti professors also may participate. The size of the student enrollment shall be specified yearly. Three to four credits may be earned for participation in the colloquium. Enrollment shall normally be limited to students with sophomore standing or above. Students may take the colloquium more than once.~~

~~8.61.13 300-level offerings shall be tutorial courses organized by discipline or college or by groups of disciplines and/or colleges. These tutorials shall normally be semester long courses taught by URI or emeriti faculty. Enrollment in each tutorial shall be limited to 15 eight students and unless the instructor considers a larger number essential. Tutorials shall ordinarily be offered for three to four 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. Enrollment shall be limited to students with junior standing or above.~~

~~8.61.14 400-level offerings shall consist of honors projects and interdisciplinary seminars. Seminars which culminate in major papers or other significant intellectual products, or special seminars which integrate substance or explore ideas and shall be limited to 15 students each. - Projects and seminars shall extend through the senior academic year. However, especially well qualified students may begin projects in the last semester of their third year. Honors projects shall normally be directed by URI faculty. Special seminars may be taught by URI or emeriti faculty and shall be limited to fifteen students each. Honors projects and special seminars shall each be offered for three to four credits per semester.~~

8.62.10 Eligibility. Eligibility standards, including QPAs, for each level of the program shall be determined ~~on a yearly basis~~ by the Honors Program and Visiting Scholars Committee and are published in the University Catalog. ~~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 the Director for admission. ~~to the program or for retention in it if they have already taken part in the program.~~

8.62.11 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.

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

8.63.10 Requirements. Students must complete at least six courses and a minimum 18 credits of course work in the Honors Program, and attain the specified QPA (8.62.10) ~~a QPA of 3.30~~ or better for these courses ~~as well as a 3.30~~ and the specified QPA overall, in order to graduate with the notation “Completed the University Honors Program.”

8.63.11 These courses shall include: a minimum of three (3) credits ~~of Honors Seminar~~ at the 100- or 200-level; a minimum of three (3) credits of the Honors Colloquium—~~HPR 201 or 202~~; three (3) credits ~~of Honors Tutorial~~ at the 300- or 400-level; six (6) credits at the 400-level, which may be either six (6) credits of the ~~Senior~~ Honors Project (~~HPR 401 and 402~~) or three (3) credits of the Senior Honors Project (HPR 401) and three (3) credits of the Senior Honors Seminar (~~HPR 411 or 412, or other approved Senior Seminar~~); three (3) additional Honors credits taken at any level; ~~and a 3.30 grade point average for honors courses and a 3.30 cumulative grade point average.~~

8.63.12 The Honors Program shall supply a list of names of the students who have successfully completed the Honors Program to the Office of Enrollment Services who shall enter on the transcript of students who meet requirements: “Completed the University Honors Program.”

8.64.10 Program Direction and Development. The Director of the Honors Program ~~and Visiting Scholars Committee~~ in consultation ~~in conjunction~~ with the Director of the Honors Program and Visiting Scholars Committee shall be responsible for overseeing ~~directing and developing~~ the Honors Program.

8.64.11 The Committee shall approve all courses offered in the Honors Program ~~and the instructors for them~~. No faculty member shall be compelled to teach in the Honors Program or direct Honors projects.

~~8.64.12 The Committee shall establish general standards for students’ performance and productivity in the Honors Program courses.~~

8.64.13-12 The Committee shall conduct periodic evaluations ~~of the effectiveness~~ of the Honors Program and its separate components.

~~8.64.14 The Committee 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 advisors and upper division advisors ~~the chairpersons of the 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.~~

~~8.65.12-11~~ Neither departments nor colleges may establish requirements that prohibit eligible students majoring in their departments or colleges from participating in the Honors Program.

8.65.13 Department chairpersons and deans shall consider Honors Program courses when scheduling teaching loads.

Changes incorporated

Honors Program

8.60.10 Honors Program. The mission of the Honors Program is to develop and maintain an interdisciplinary intellectual community; to stimulate intellectual excitement for all participants; to inspire and enhance critical, creative, and integrative thinking; and to foster opportunities to broaden intellectual development.

8.61.10 Content. The Honors Program curriculum shall consist of four years of course work at the undergraduate level, integrated as follows:

8.61.11 100- and 200-level offerings shall be general courses specifically created for the program or existing courses that have been modified to serve its purposes, and may enroll up to 20 students each. 100- and 200-level honors courses may be offered for one to four credits. Enrollment preference in 100-level honors courses shall be given to first year students.

8.61.12 At the 200-level, the Honors program shall offer an interdisciplinary colloquium. URI faculty and/or staff shall serve as coordinators for the colloquia. Outside lecturers and emeriti professors also may participate. The size of the student enrollment shall be specified yearly. Three to four credits may be earned for participation in the colloquium. Enrollment shall normally be limited to students with sophomore standing or above.

8.61.13 300-level offerings shall normally be limited to 15 students and shall ordinarily be offered for three to four credits.

8.61.14 400-level offerings shall consist of honors projects and interdisciplinary seminars. Seminars shall be limited to 15 students each. Honors projects shall normally be directed by URI faculty. Honors projects and seminars shall each be offered for three to four credits per semester.

8.62.10 Eligibility. Eligibility standards, including QPAs, for each level of the program shall be determined by the Honors Program and Visiting Scholars Committee and are published in the University Catalog. Students who do not meet the standards may petition the Director for admission.

8.62.11 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.

8.63.10 Requirements. Students must complete at least six courses and a minimum 18 credits of course work in the Honors Program, and attain the specified QPA (8.62.10) or better for these courses and the specified QPA overall, in order to graduate with the notation “Completed the University Honors Program.”

8.63.11 These courses shall include: a minimum of three (3) credits at the 100- or 200-level; a minimum of three (3) credits of the Honors Colloquium; three (3) credits at the 300- or 400-level; six (6) credits at the 400-level, which may be either six (6) credits of the Honors Project or three (3) credits of the Honors Project and three (3) credits of the Senior Honors Seminar; three (3) additional Honors credits taken at any level.

8.63.12 The Honors Program shall supply a list of names of the students who have successfully completed the Honors Program to the Office of Enrollment Services who shall enter on the transcript of students who meet requirements: “Completed the University Honors Program.”

8.64.10 Program Direction and Development. The Director of the Honors Program in consultation with the Honors Program and Visiting Scholars Committee shall be responsible for overseeing the Honors Program.

8.64.11 The Committee shall approve all courses offered in the Honors Program. No faculty member shall be compelled to teach in the Honors Program or direct Honors projects.

8.64.12 The Committee shall conduct periodic evaluations of the Honors Program and its separate components.

8.65.10 Department and College Responsibilities. University College advisors and upper division advisors shall inform eligible students about the Honors Program.

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