Honors Program Committee Agenda  
Thursday, September 24, 2:00-3:00 p.m.  
Honors Program Lounge, UI Commons 315A

UHP Committee Members
- Sanjay Sisodiya, Business, Honors Program Committee Chair
- Stacy Camp, Anthropology
- Pamela Bathurst, Music
- Ashley Kerr, Modern Languages and Cultures
- John Foltz, Agricultural and Life Sciences
- Brian He, Biological and Agricultural Engineering
- David Pfeiffer, Biological Sciences
- Jennifer Downen, President, Honors Leadership Council (one vote)
- Alton Campbell, UHP Director (w/o vote)
- Chris Price, UHP Management Assistant (w/o vote; honors@uidaho.edu)

Agenda
1. Welcome and introductions- Sanjay Sisodiya (Chair) (2-3 min)

2. The role of the UHP Committee (Alton-2-3 min)
   - Advocate for Honors Program
   - Make curricular decisions and recommend policies such as admission criteria
   - Help assess and improve program
   - Advise the Program and the Director

3. Honors Leadership Council (HLC) updates – Jennifer Downen (HLC Co-President) (3-5 min)
   completed and planned activities, events, and service projects for fall 2015

4. Update on Honors Program – Alton (10-15 min)
   - Enrollment
   - Honors courses
     - Courses being taught fall 2015 (attached)
     - Draft list of courses for spring 2016 (attached)
     - Summer course: INTR 404: “Ecuador: From the Andes, to the Amazon, to the Galapagos Islands” (3 cr, 25 days) Justin Barnes and Anibel Alcocer
     - RFP for honors seminar courses for fall 2016 and spring 2017 (attached, and distributed on Sept. 18 and due Nov. 9). Committee and HLC will review and approve
   - Start of year activities (Move-in Day, Parent Orientation, Student Orientation, Bitterwolf Classic Movie Night: “To Kill a Mockingbird,” Salmon River raft trip (canceled due to smoke), and ice cream social)
   - Academic and social co-curricular activities already in progress fall 2015, which is in addition to those planned by HLC and honors living groups
     - Sunday Night Bridge, including playing with UI President (Sept. 20)
     - Food for Thought Lunch: Oct. 5 with Tom Drake and Tara MacDonald (English profs)
     - Fireside Chats:
- Wed, Sept. 23, Andy Kersten: “What is an Educated Person”
- Wed. Oct. 28, Pam Bathurst: “Opening doors with the sound of your voice”
- Mon. Nov. 16, Joy Passante, “A Father’s War, A Daughter’s Book: Making History Personal” about her new book, and the process of research and writing
  - Things That Matter (TTM) student discussion/social groups (11 groups, 9 facilitators, about 75 students)
  - Honors Book Club, student led, Jenna Putnam
  - The Looking Glass: honors literary magazine, student led, committee
  - New honors first-year Mentoring Program (about 40 mentors and 60 mentees, led and organized by Melissa Damele and Paul Hanna, RAs in McCoy)
  - New Honors Movie and a Prof Nights: Friday, Oct. 2, Matt Wappett, Chinese movie “A Touch of Sin” which is a modern commentary on the violence inherent in modern life and especially in a rapidly developing China
- Honors living groups (McCoy in Theophilus Tower and Scholars-LLC) enrollment, RAs, community, programming/activities, landscaping, and new student art gallery

5. Implementation of the New Honors Thesis (10 min)
   - RFP for honors research grants (attached)
   - **Proposal to evaluate student research proposals:**
     - Create an Honors Research Award Ad Hoc Committee from members on the Honors Program Committee?
     - Send PDF of all applications with rubric to committee members, then schedule a face to face meeting to decide on grant recipients before Christmas vacation?
   - Do you have other ideas to increase participation in Honors Thesis research? What about brief presentations at departments meetings?

6. Dealing with students who come in with more and more AP and dual enrollment credits and not needing many general education credits other than ISEM 101 (Alton-10 min)
   - Discussion of problem and issues and models used at other honors colleges/programs across the northwest
   - **Proposal to change Honors Certificate and Honors Core Award requirements** as to number of Honors Contract and Honors Research credits that may be counted toward completion
     - Up to twelve credits earned from Honors Course Contracts, including Honors Research, may be applied toward the Certificate. (Currently a maximum of 6 credits.)
     - Up to nine credits earned from Honors Course Contracts, including research credits, may be applied toward the UHP Core Award. (Currently a maximum of 3 credits.)
   - In addition, brainstorm how to get students to remain as active members and to complete Honors Certificate or Core Award

7. Holly LaHann update – Distinguished scholarships and Honors Program Coordinator (Holly-10 min)
   - Overview of new distinguished scholarship program and new web site
   - Consideration of honors committee serving as advisory committee for distinguished scholarships?
   - How can we better communicate scholarship opportunities and information to students, faculty and departments???
8. Draft agenda items for future meetings in 2015-16 academic year (Alton- 5 min)
   • Review and select course seminar proposals for fall 2016 and spring 2017
   • How can we enhance Honors Program visibility and perception on campus?
   • Review and make suggestions to 2015-16 Honors Recruiting Plan
   • Review and make decisions on admission criteria for international students
   • Review and make suggestions to 2015-16 Honors Program Assessment Plan and assist with assessment over the year
   • Discuss pros and cons of an Honors Program vs Honors College
   • Review the success or challenges of our honors hybrid teaching models
   • Develop and approve a 5-year strategic plan with mission statement that is complementary with the timing of the UI planning process
   • Are there other agenda items that we should discuss or tackle?

9. Final comments and reminder of UHP Committee meeting dates for fall semester (Sanjay-2 min)
   • Thursday, Oct. 15 from 2:00-3:00
   • Tuesday Nov. 17 from 2:00-3:00
   • Meeting will be scheduled for the Research Award Ad Hoc Committee in which they will review proposals and award grants to students