



**ANTELOPE VALLEY COLLEGE
HONORS COMMITTEE MEETING
September 27, 2010
2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Room A141**

To conform to the open meeting act, the public may attend open sessions

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**
2. **OPENING COMMENTS FROM THE HONORS COMMITTEE CHAIR**
3. **OPEN COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - a. 4/26/2010
5. **PRESENTATION – None**
6. **REPORTS**
 - a. Alpha Iota Report (Elaine Tsai/Myesha Britt/Dr. Jaffe)
7. **ACTION ITEM - None**
8. **DISCUSSION**
 - a. Honors Course Proposal for Anth 101H (Darcy Wiewall)
 - b. Honors Option Proposals (Karen Lubick)
 - English 102: Critical Thinking and Literature (Toth)
 - Film TV 201: Intercultural and Women’s Film (Welsch)
 - Geography 105: Cultural Geography (Pesses)
9. **ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS - None**
10. **OTHER – None**
11. **ADJOURNMENT**

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**ANTELOPE VALLEY COLLEGE
HONORS COMMITTEE MEETING
September 27, 2010
Room A141, 2:00 – 3:00 PM**

Members Present	Members Absent	Guests in Attendance
Karen Lubick	Dr. Tom O’Neil	Dr. Matthew Jaffe
Kathy Moore		Mary Margaret McGuire
Dr. Zia Nisani		Elaine Tsai – ASO rep
Dr. Igor Marder		Myesha Britt – Alpha Iota rep
Susan Knapp		
Dr. Fredy Aviles		
Rae Agahari		

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Ms. Lubick called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

2. OPENING COMMENTS FROM THE HONORS COMMITTEE CHAIR – Ms. Lubick started the meeting by having everyone introduce themselves since we have several new members on the committee. She relayed to the members who did not attend the Honors Program flex event on September 22 the following: the most important job of the committee is looking at course proposals. This happens when a faculty member wishes to teach an honors section of their class. They must put together a proposal using our template and include their new honors syllabus as well as the regular one. This will entail much of what the committee does during the year. The new course must follow the course outline of record. There are certain standards and criteria that have been established by the committee that the faculty member must incorporate into their new honors submission. They must show that a student is being tasked to do more than a regular student.

The committee rarely rejects proposals. We work with the submitter so all concerns are corrected and we can proceed with offering that course. We also seek out faculty members in various areas who may be interested in providing an honors course. We also set policy and procedures that affect anything honors related on the campus. This could include the President’s and Dean’s lists, graduation for honors students, issues with courses in the catalog and catalog rights, and priority registration requirement. We also have Honors Option by Contract. This means a student and faculty member engage in a contract for the course they are in that is not an Honors course. The student and faculty agree to certain parameters above and beyond the normal course load and if completed at

the end of the semester, the faculty member forwards the information to the committee that the contract has been fulfilled. The student would then receive an “H” next to that course on their transcript. A student is allowed to take three of these types of courses for inclusion on their transcript and for transferring to UCLA.

Ms. Lubick would like to make change to the agenda. The course proposal for Anthropology 101 (discussion 8a) is not available. At this time, she would also like to include as a discussion item Biol 110H (Dr. Matthew Rainbow) entitled General Molecular Biology as an honors option. Ms. Lubick requested a motion and second from the floor. Upon receiving such, a vote was taken to approve the change in agenda. Motion passed.

Ms. Lubick also pointed out to the members an article in Education Next Online titled “Acting White”. It states that a number of minority students, many of whom would be very good students, are stigmatized by doing a good job and thus “acting white”. So they do not do as good as they could so they blend into the crowd and not stand out. The only group of students who are not affected by this stigmatism are minority honors students. Ms. Britt confirmed this. Very interesting.

3. OPEN COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC – None

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the 4/26/10 meeting. With no further discussion, the minutes were approved.

5. PRESENTATION – None

6. REPORTS

a. Alpha Gamma Sigma/Alpha Iota Report (Myesha Britt) – the group has now elected officers. They just finished the duck race with 494 entries with Dr. Jaffe buying quite a number (over 100) in the last week. The group has over \$12K in their treasury which goes towards scholarships and events. They also have a car wash coming up and a candy sale. The group has also come up with the idea of adopting soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan who will be gone from nine months to a year and a half and send them care packages of items that they could not procure there. They also plan to help the disabled on campus as well as feed the homeless. Ms. Knapp gave the suggestion that they could again provide breakfast items at the Spring Welcome Back Day as a fundraiser toward the soldier care packages. Ms. Knapp will procure a headcount of attendance so they can plan for what food they need and do the advertising.

7. ACTION ITEMS – none

8. DISCUSSION

a. Honors Option Proposal for English 102: Critical Thinking and Literature – This course is taught by Mr. Toth who has already taught the honors section and is approved to do so. This course has four sections that are studied: drama, poetry, novel and short story. The students are required to write literary analysis but it is very open ended. In an honors course, they are requested to look at something from a critical thinking aspect or a lens approach (one or more). The course asks a student to step out from behind the lens

that they are comfortable with and use another to get a completely different perspective. A research paper is required. All members felt that the proposal was acceptable so Ms. Lubick requested a motion to approve. A motion and second was given and with no further discussion, the motion was approved.

b. Film TV 201: Intercultural and Women's Film – Ms. Agahari pointed out that in the first bolded paragraph that the faculty is speaking in terms of working in small groups. What if there is only one student signed up to do this option? It is also referenced in the seconded bolded paragraph that there will be “group leaders”. And why is only one student allowed to do a short documentary for class showing. Ms. Lubick will follow up with Prof. Welsch on these concerns. This proposal is put on hold for now.

c. Honors Option for Geography 105: Cultural Geography – A number of committee members had a concern about the stated length of the research paper (5-10 pages). They felt that this left too much leeway for a student to be judged on what they wrote. And since this course is to define the place where the Internet resides, Dr. Aviles questioned whether or not using websites are sources or not. Prof. Pesses does state that there are a number of journal articles on the subject. Ms. Lubick will check with Prof. Pesses on this. Ms. Lubick requested a motion to approve. A motion and second was given and with no further discussion, the motion was approved.

d. Honors Option for Biol 110: General Molecular Biology – This option had been presented before but had never been put on the proper template. It had been approved in the past to be taught. Ms. Lubick requested a motion to approve. A motion and second was given and with no further discussion, the motion was approved.

9. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS - None

10. OTHER

a. Ms. Lubick passed out the tentative proposal for the next two years for honors courses. This is a starting point to decide which courses we will provide each semester but we need to discuss this further. There may be several others courses that need to be added or substituted. We will discuss this at the next meeting.

11. ADJOURNMENT – the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

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