



Honors TAP Committee Minutes

Monday, February 24, 2025
ZOOM Meeting
2:30-4:00 PM

Type of Meeting: Regular
Note Taker: Towana Catley

Committee members: (bolded names in attendance)
Towana Catley, Faculty Co-Chair
 Dr. Darcy Wiewall, Faculty Co-Chair
Dr. Jedidiah Lobos, Dean MSE, Administrative Member
 Rae Agahari, Arts & Humanities
Reina Burgos, Counseling
Dietra Jackson, Counseling
Elinda Parkinson, Health & Safety Sciences
Jacqueline Seekamp, Library
Kaitlin Bessinger, Math Sciences Engineering
 Mike Pesses, Math Sciences Engineering
Pavinee Villapando, Math Sciences, Engineering
Greg Langner, Language & Communication Arts

Dr. Matthew Jaffe, Social & Behavioral Sciences
David L. Adams, Social & Behavioral Sciences
Kevin North, At-Large
Dr. Rachel Jennings Tafarella, At-Large
Hannah Valencia, Adjunct Representative
John Vento, Ex-Officio
Tamira Palmetto, Ex-Officio

OPEN, Athletics & Kinesiology
 OPEN, Career Technical Education
 OPEN, ASO Representative
 OPEN, Honors TAP Representative

Items	Person	Action
I. Call to Order and Roll Call	Towana & Darcy	2:34pm
II. Open Comments from the Public		
III. Informational Items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • President and Dean's List • Call Center Report • 2024-2025 Subject Area Awards Memo (SAA) • Honors Ambassadors 	Towana & Darcy	<p><u>President and Dean's List:</u> Numbers keep increasing! Hooray!</p> <p>Fall 2024 President List (3.75-4.0): 817 Dean's List (3.5-3.74): 388</p> <p>Spring 2024 President List: 719 Dean List: 352</p> <p>Fall 2023 President List : 722 Dean List: 351</p> <p><u>January/Intersession Call Center Honors</u> 45 students were enrolled in honors courses that are not in the program. Majority of students who were called did report they were aware they were enrolled into an honors course</p> <p><u>SAA Memo:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Memo was emailed to Deans & Admins 12/6/2024 ○ Memo email to everyone 2/3/25

<p>IV. Approval of Minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval of Minutes – November 25, 2024 	<p>All</p>	<p>Issues Discussed: No changes/edits requested to November 25, 2024 minutes.</p> <p>Action Taken: Greg approves, Rachel seconds, Dean Lobos, No abstentions.</p> <p>Follow Up Items:</p>
<p>V. Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Division Meetings report for 3.24.25 	<p>All</p>	<p>n/a</p>
<p>VI. Action Item</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English 102 H, Rachel Jennings Tafarella • Honors Option (HO) Online Classes • Honors rebrand/logo • Cap on Honors Courses at Other Colleges 	<p>All</p>	<p>Issues Discussed:</p> <p>Action Taken: <u>ENGL102 Honors Proposal by Rachel Jennings-Tafarella</u> Kevin motions to approve. Elinda seconds, everyone approves with motion to have ENGL102 Honors added to the Honors course listings.</p> <p>HO Online Classes: Will bring back for discussion in the March meeting as committee members will bring feedback from their divisions.</p> <p>Cap on Honors courses at other colleges: Committee voted in favor of allowing unlimited number of honors courses taken at other institutions to count towards AVC Honors TAP requirements. This will not be marketed to encourage honors courses to be taken at AVC, but if the rare situation arises where a student has majority of honors work taken elsewhere, this allows for credit.</p> <p>Honors rebrand/Logo: Feedback of committee is to go with the proposed draft. Hannah moves, Greg seconds, all in favor to move forward with new logo.</p> <p>Follow Up Items:</p>
<p>VII. Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English 102 H, Rachel Jennings Tafarella • Honors Option Online Classes • Cap on Honors Courses at Other Colleges • 2024-2025 Honors TAP/SAA Convocation • Spring Honors Mixer • Student Success Conference 4/1-4/3 • Honors Graduation regalia • Honors TAP Proxy • Honors rebrand/logo 	<p>All</p>	<p>Issues Discussed: <u>ENGL102 Honors Proposal by Rachel Jennings-Tafarella</u> Faculty members provided support and positive feedback with proposal which reflected much thought was put into it. Professor has provided this as an Honors Option, and reports she had the time to grow it into a full honors course. Professor asks a question to the committee regarding how one can cover the material while having a balance time. Elinda and Greg</p>

shares insights.

Honors Convocation/SAA Nominations

Dean Lobos brings back the idea of areas vs discipline courses, and the issue of consistency and fairness when identifying qualifying courses for SAA nomination. This has been an ongoing conversation. Vento brings up the length of Honors Convocation when adding more to SAA list. Dr. Jaffe and Tamira share insights from past conversations inconsideration of the time constraints and program flow of the Honors Convocation.

To account for all subject areas with the limited 2 hours of Honors Convocation, it was proposed to remove the bio speeches of SAA recipients. Alternative program schedule was explored where SAA recipients can still be acknowledged such as having a second smaller ceremony like that of the AVC Foundation for scholarship recipients. Another idea is to have their bios marketed through AVC Marketing (i.e. TV screens, campus updates) AND for the honors convocation program to provide a link/QR code where bios can be accessed. No speech is said, but in its place is a bio accessible at an online/honors convocation location. All agree the nominating faculty is responsible for putting together the SAA recipient bio (what use to be the 1 minute speech). SAA memo still stands, but interpretation of areas is now applied across the board with ONE nominated student per area.

Cap on Honors Courses at other colleges:

How many courses will we accept from another institution? With increase of online courses (cvc.edu) similar thoughts were expressed by committee with honors option online classes. To be equitable, and not limit students and their choices, the committee expressed their support for unlimited honors courses to be taken at other colleges whether in person or online. If universities do not have a limit, then we should not either; and give credit as universities would. Honors TAP will highly “recommend” students to complete honors course requirements at AVC, but any taken elsewhere is accepted for Honors TAP completion.

Honors Option Online Classes:

- Require all HO faculty to:
- Review their HO proposals for online pedagogy
 - Make changes and present proposals to Committee if needed
 - Agree that they will meet with students 6 hours over the course of the semester via zoom
 - Only 1 HO online permitted

David brings up equity and access as primary reasons why HO online courses should apply towards Honors course requirements. If the online course is asynchronous, then the HO credit for that class should be allowed (as long as it follows the HO online guidelines). Pavinee brings concerns with the challenges of online math classes.

Honors Convocation/SAA Awards:

Date: May 8th 6-8pm

SAA nomination form online at

www.avc.edu/honors > Honors Convocation

To date, Grad list have been requested twice now from A&R and we are still waiting for “the list”. SAA nomination deadline is March 28th.

Idea was presented to create an online platform where faculty must use credentials to log in to access list and do nomination form. Canvas? Report history of this of A&R Dean. This can be investigated for 2026 SAA nomination process. In lieu of timing, this year’s nomination process will remain.

More to be planned in detail in next 2 committee meetings with changes of convocation.

Honors rebrand/Logo:

Draft of proposed logo was shared. Feedback was positive. Rachel shared keeping the colors as is so it is simple and not to distracting. Towana shares that simplicity was intended as printing on various textures and sizes with multiple colors can increase costs for production. If committee approves to move forward, Towana will forward logo to AVC Marketing for approval and follow next steps for print.

		<p>Action Taken: <u>Honors Convocation/SAA Nominations</u> Greg Langner moves to eliminate speeches and honor students other way which will be explored in next committee meeting(s). Elinda seconds. All present and are in favor.</p> <p><u>Follow Up Items:</u></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjournment 		4:00pm
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NEXT MEETING DATE: March 24, 2025 		