Honors College Proposal
Open Forum
December 2016
Honors College Proposal

- Mission/Vision
- New Admission Standards
- Organizational Structure
- Faculty Categories
- Honors College Council
- New Honors Curriculum
- Co-Curricular Activities
- Implementation Timeline
Mission Statement

The NKU Honors College offers a unique transformative undergraduate experience for a diverse group of intellectually curious high-achieving students.

A bold interdisciplinary curriculum, along with a wide range of co-curricular activities, prepares Honors students to become creative, critical independent thinkers and collaborative problem-solvers who are also active, empathetic and informed citizens of local and global communities.
Vision Statement

The NKU Honors College aims to accomplish the following within the next five years:

- Establish a reputation for academic rigor
- Encourage research, creative, and service activity
- Foster a culture of inclusiveness and transdisciplinarity
- Develop a vibrant community of Honors scholars
- Forge close relationships with academic departments and colleges
- Increase the rate of retention and graduation of each student cohort
- Establish articulation agreements and pathways with KCTCS institutions to facilitate transfer of community college students into the Honors College
New Admissions Standards

• Flexibility to encourage diversity
• Allows entrance to currently enrolled students
• Allows entrance to transfer students
Organizational Chart

Vice Provost for Undergraduate Academic Affairs

Honors College Director / Dean

Administrative Coordinator

Coordinator of Advising

Associate Director

Core Faculty

Affiliated Faculty Associate Faculty

Honors Ambassadors

Honors Council
Honors Faculty

**Core Faculty** members are hired by the Honors program and report to the Honors Director. The Core Faculty’s disciplinary specialty is open; excellence in teaching is the highest priority in their selection. Though employed full-time by the Honors College, the Core Faculty are designated an academic home in an academic department according to their credentials.

**Affiliated Faculty** members are selected from a variety of academic departments, who specialize in at least one of the core Honors courses. Affiliated Faculty members are expected to make at least a three-year commitment to teach in the Honors College, teaching three sections of Honors courses per year.

**Associate Faculty** members are faculty members with excellence in teaching from other colleges at NKU or other institutions who have had a seminar proposal accepted by the Honors Council that meets the needs of the Honors curriculum. Associate Faculty members are expected to commit to teach their proposed seminar in the Honors College at least twice over a designated time period.
Honors Council Membership

• The Honors Council shall be composed of no more than 12 voting members. Membership will consist of the following individuals:
  • At least two Honors Core Faculty Members with at least two years of service to the Honors College;
  • At least three Honors Affiliated Faculty Members with at least two years of service to the Honors College;
  • Two At-Large members of the University community from such areas as Student Affairs, Library, and Academic Affairs administration as deemed appropriate by the Council;
  • One College Dean or designee;
  • Two Honors College students;
  • Two invited Honors College Alumni, as ex-officio members; and
  • The Honors College Director, the Assistant Director and administrative Honors College staff the Director so designates, as ex-officio members.
New Honors College Council

- The Honors Council advises the Director in the following areas:
  - Student recruitment standards and procedures
  - Student orientation and advisement
  - Academic standards and policies
  - Assessment
  - Co-curricular programming
  - Program review
  - Internal and external public relations
  - Alumni and donor relations
Honors Curriculum

- Introduction and Foundation Building
- Cohort Tracks
- 300-level Seminar
- Capstone
# Part I: First Year Curriculum Structure

## Introduction

### Understanding Self

Emphasis on written/oral communication expected in college. Expectations of Honors students. The university as a community.

## Foundation Building

### Asking the Right Questions

Identify problems of interest, research and analyze, and present results in written and oral formats.
### Part II: Second + Third Year: Cohort Tracks

Students select at least one of three tracks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community and The Natural World</th>
<th>Community and Society</th>
<th>Community and Humanity</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| Methods for exploring the physical world, human society, or human thought and creativity through cross-disciplinary avenues. | Dimensions of community: Connect questions in the natural world, behavioral and social sciences, or the humanities to specific community needs and issues | Citizenship and the Natural World
Thinking about citizenship (obligations and opportunities), space (local and global community), and time (past and future). |
### Part III: Third and Fourth Year
Enhancing and Culminating Work

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Honors 300-level interdisciplinary seminar(s) or study abroad.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Honors Capstone, Part 1 – Research and proposal writing or departmental capstone course.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Honors Capstone, Part 2 – Collaborative or individual project including publication and presentation of project or departmental capstone.</td>
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Co-Curricular Activities

Orientation
Resource Fair
Speakers, forums, symposia
Sophomore Leadership Experience
Academic Support Workshops
Professional Support Workshops
Activities directly related to Honors Core Courses
  • Experiential Learning
  • Service Learning Opportunities
  • Field Trips
  • Study Abroad Opportunities
Honors Student Association
Service Projects
Residential and Commuter Student Community Building
# Resources

No new resources needed to implement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Budget</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Honors College Director/Dean position</td>
<td>Existing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative/staff support</td>
<td>Existing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Core faculty positions</td>
<td>Existing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Affiliated/Associate faculty</td>
<td>Re-assigned from colleges</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operating budget</td>
<td>Existing</td>
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# Implementation Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Present proposal to Academic Affairs Council</td>
<td>September 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Present proposal to Executive Team</td>
<td>September 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Present proposal to Board of Regents</td>
<td>November 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Honors Council established</td>
<td>Fall 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Search for Honors College Director/Dean</td>
<td>Spring 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Develop curriculum</td>
<td>AY 2016-2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Director/Dean begins work</td>
<td>July 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ongoing course/co-curricular development</td>
<td>AY 2017-2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grand opening and celebration with the University and community</td>
<td>Fall 2018 Concurrent with 50th Anniversary</td>
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Honors College Task Force 2016
Membership and Work Groups

Chair: Idna M. Corbett, VPUAA

Current Status and Mission
• Melissa Gorbandt, Director of Admissions
• Belle Zembrodt, Honors Program Interim Director
• Nathan Garbig, Honors program Student

Structure
• Kevin Kirby, Dean, College of Informatics
• Threasa Wesley, Library
• Rudy Garns, Interim Coordinator of Integrative Studies
• Belle Zembrodt

Curriculum and Co-Curricular Component
• Brooke Buckley, Faculty in Department of Mathematics and Statistics
• Rudy Garns
• Tracy Hart, Faculty in First Year Programs
• Jonathan McKenzie, Faculty in Department of Political Science
• Ali Godel, Honors Program Core Faculty
• David Kime, Honors Program Advising Coordinator