



# Honors College Proposal

Open Forum  
December 2016

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# Honors College Proposal

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



# Mission Statement

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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

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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

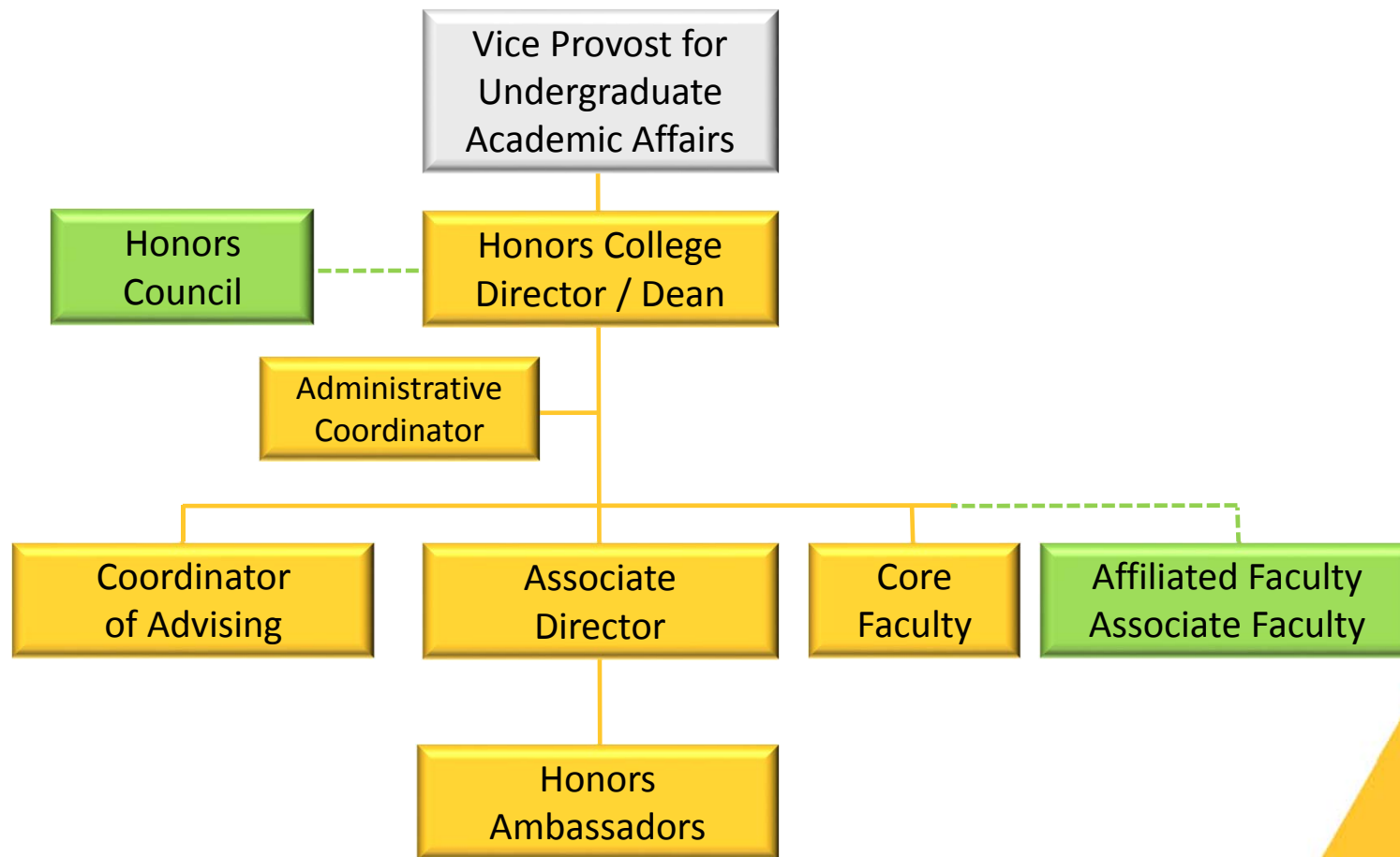


# New Admissions Standards

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- Flexibility to encourage diversity
- Allows entrance to currently enrolled students
- Allows entrance to transfer students

# Organizational Chart



# Honors Faculty

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**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

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- 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

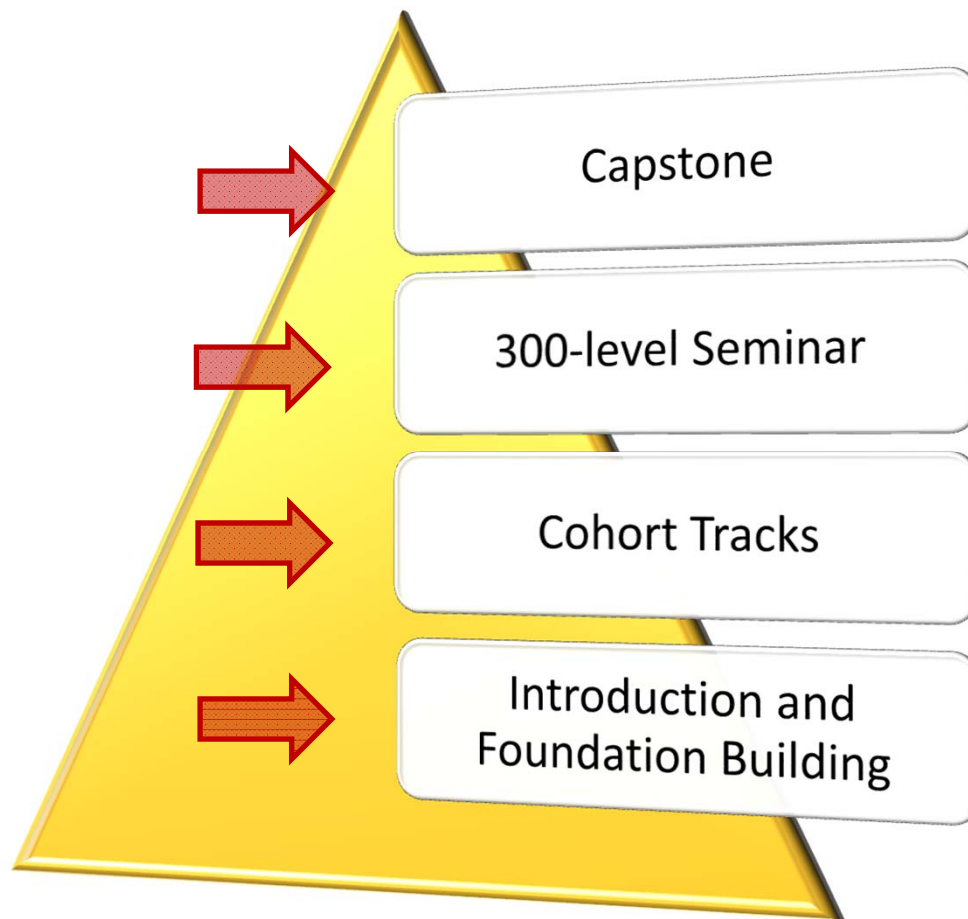
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- The Honors Council advises the Director in the following areas:
  - Student recruitment standards and procedures
  - Student orientation and advisement
  - Academic standards and policies
  - Assessment
  - Co-curricular programming
  - Program review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



# Honors Curriculum

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# 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

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Community and The Natural World	Community and Society	Community and Humanity
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

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**Honors 300-level interdisciplinary seminar(s) or study abroad.**

**Honors Capstone, Part 1** – Research and proposal writing or departmental capstone course.

**Honors Capstone, Part 2** – Collaborative or individual project including publication and presentation of project or departmental capstone.

# Co-Curricular Activities

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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**

Description	Budget
Honors College Director/Dean position	Existing
Administrative/staff support	Existing
Core faculty positions	Existing
Affiliated/Associate faculty	Re-assigned from colleges
Operating budget	Existing

# Implementation Timeline

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<b>Present proposal to Academic Affairs Council</b>	<b>September 2016</b>
<b>Present proposal to Executive Team</b>	<b>September 2016</b>
<b>Present proposal to Board of Regents</b>	<b>November 2016</b>
<b>Honors Council established</b>	<b>Fall 2016</b>
<b>Search for Honors College Director/Dean</b>	<b>Spring 2017</b>
<b>Develop curriculum</b>	<b>AY 2016-2017</b>
<b>Director/Dean begins work</b>	<b>July 2017</b>
<b>Ongoing course/co-curricular development</b>	<b>AY 2017-2018</b>
<b>Grand opening and celebration with the University and community</b>	<b>Fall 2018 Concurrent with 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary</b>



# Honors College Task Force 2016

## Membership and Work Groups

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**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

