



December 2013 Activity Report

(Initiatives mapped to Honors Strategic Plan: “Investigate, Communicate, Elevate: 2013-2015”)
 Title III Program Grant is being tracked separately, but √ serves as cross-reference herein.

KEY:

Normal font indicates ongoing, previously reported activity
Bold font indicates new activity in current reporting month
 Red font indicates completion of a goal in a prior month

Activity	Strategic Plan Goal	Title III?
<i>Adopt a 4-year, scaffolded / articulated honors curriculum...</i> Freshmen HONR seminar descriptions/proposals in development Senior thesis courses across all undergrad. depts. in development (Honors Council)	1.1.a	√
<i>Secure priority registration privileges for honors students</i> Priority Registration Approved 9/30/2013	1.1.c	
<i>Sponsor the development of innovative honors courses</i> PSYC 388, “Mysteries of the Mind” was not approved by Academic Affairs for S 2014.	1.2.c	√
<i>Collaborate with Registrar to implement honors notations on transcripts, etc</i> Notations on transcripts will be made possible via Registrar. (Diplomas may need to wait b/c of formatting issues)	1.3.a	
<i>Delegate “Honors Convocation” to a campus committee appointed by Academic Affairs</i> First meeting scheduled for 01/08	1.3.b	
<i>Improve recognition / celebration of student accomplishment</i> Inaugural Honors Medaling Ceremony for 5 Dec. graduates held: 12/12/13	1.3.c 2.1.c	
<i>Implement a required senior thesis / capstone project</i> Working with chairs and Honors Council to begin drafting institutionally standard, but discipline-specific, course descriptions, etc. of eventual thesis / capstone.	2.1	
<i>Increase student participation / presentation at professional meetings</i> 12 student proposals submitted for MCHC (Feb; Westminster, MD)	2.2	√
<i>Invite guest speakers to address honors students (preprofessional / philanthropic, etc.)</i> Several speakers visited this semester; cf previous months’ reports. None in December.	3.1.c	√
<i>Develop honors-specific, short-term study abroad opportunities</i> Dr. Wade, in role as Consultant, advertising and promoting Rome & Paris trip. Dr. Lane coordinating on-site university visits (Paris, Angers) to establish MoU during the Paris-Rome trip.	3.3.d	√
<i>Schedule NCHC-approved external review / site visit</i> Review scheduled March 5-7. Appointments being arranged. Self study in progress.	4.1	√
<i>Form campus committees that regularly review aspects/results of program</i> Advisory Board now meeting regularly (2x/semester) Honors Council now meeting regularly (monthly) (15/16 reps; none yet from HRM).	4.2.a	√
<i>Revise Mission and Vision Statements</i> Mission statement refined. Core Values identified and posted on website. Vision statement remains to be developed.	4.2.b	
<i>Perform overhaul of program website</i>	5.1.a.i.	

In progress. New pages in Dec. for Giving to Honors; Activity Reports		
<i>Publish quarterly newsletter</i> Winter edition due out in mid-January.	5.1.a.ii	
<i>Utilize social networking media to communicate... events & opportunities</i> Honors Program Facebook Page and Twitter accounts regularly updated. Wikipedia entry in development. Future: Pinterest; LinkedIn; Instagram; “vidbits” for YouTube; blog	5.1.a.iii	
<i>Form campus groups to institutionalize honors engagement, awareness, etc.</i> Advisory Board complete (Mtg 10/03). Curricular Council formed – 1st mtg 11/14. Vanguard (student ambassadors) in place. Honors Student Association officers elected. Next: need an admissions and scholarship review committee.	5.1.b	√
<i>Appoint Director full member of Deans Council</i> Director attends Deans’ Council. Following transition to college, status should change to reflect full membership / voting privileges, titular promotion to Dean.	5.1.c	
<i>Collaborate with Enrollment Management re: Admissions / Recruitment</i> Met w/ Admissions & Admin. Computing to streamline online application Table, Staff, and Vanguard @ Fall Open Houses Director is new Chair of Senate Admissions Committee	5.2.a	
<i>Organize informational events at regional “feeder” schools</i> Recruitment @ Bennett. visited w/ students 11/21 from 4 Salisbury / HS	5.2.b	
<i>Create honors ambassadors program, “Vanguard”</i> Complete: 19 students “knighted” in ceremony. Possibly more in January.	5.2.c 6.2.c	
<i>Partner with Advancement & Development ...</i> Working w/ Diriker on verbage for “Giving to Honors” weblink.	5.4	
<i>Dedicate a residential facility as an honors living-learning community</i> 2014 honors housing, esp. for frosh (to be required) in development	6.1	
<i>Inaugurate an honors ambassadors program, Vanguard (see also above)</i> Complete, w/ 19 initiates. May “knight” more in Spring. Annual invitations, primarily to Frosh and sophomores to foster sustained involvement over 4-yr. pd.	6.2.c	
<i>Revise admissions... such that participation is no longer dependent on scholarship...</i> Continued Mtgs. with Enrollment Mgmt team. We will admit, for 2014, more students who are not scholarship recipients. (this fall 2013, only 20 were admitted)	7.1.a	
<i>Refine admissions processes to include an essay, resume, review committee...</i> Honors-specific essay and résumé now required in application. Ongoing mtgs with Academic Computing and Enrollment Mgmt to discuss implementation via online app. portal. For now, Honors staff will serve as review committee.	7.1.c	
<i>Increase # of transfer students / Sign MoU / articulation agreements with Comm. Colls.</i> “Honors of the Eastern Shore” Summit mtg. w/ Hon Dirs. of Wor-Wic & SU: 12/06	7.1.d	
<i>Increase internal admissions</i> Receipt of internal apps increasing (~15); 12 approved. Invite to high-performing freshmen pending HawkEye update for query of fall grades.	7.1.e	
<i>Increase faculty / staff involvement in honors...</i> Director’s (Oct) series of receptions with Chairs: low turn-out (8 of 18 chairs participated) Advisory Board formed; Council formed. Mtgs. With various staff / admin. Officers as listed above.	7.4.f 7.4.g	
<i>Situate honors program as a locus of leadership...</i> Dr. Wade spearheading development of “Emerging Leaders Institute”. Rep from NCA&T to visit in November to plan first multi-day leadership event for Feb/Mar	8	√
<i>Increase the visibility and value of honors at UMES.... Locus of campus leadership</i> Full-day honors admin. “Retreat” scheduled for 01/09/14 to perform short- and long-term planning necessary to effect transition from program to collegiate status.	8.2	
<i>Perform restructuration and transition from program to collegiate status</i> Strong progress being made. Cf: above re: retreat to solidify plans.	9	