



November 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> 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 Acad. 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> Recommended to Provost a more inclusive list of committee members, campus-wide to reduce the level of commitment by honors-only human resources.	1.3.b	
<i>Improve recognition / celebration of student accomplishment</i> Inaugural Honors Medaling Ceremony slated for 5 Dec. graduates: 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> 2 students attended NCHC (Nov.; New Orleans) to learn about honors leadership from peers at other institutions. Assistant Director Roberts, in role as Coordinator for TMCF, organized travel for 10+ students (3 honors) to attend TMCF Leadership Institute (Nov.; Washington, DC) 12 student proposals received (to date) for MCHC (Feb; Westminster, MD)	2.2	√
<i>Invite guest speakers to address honors students (preprofessional / philanthropic, etc.)</i> Partnered w/ SAP Lecture Series to host R. Sanabria (“Expressive Threads”): 11/19 Hosted presenters from “The Thirst Project”: 11/12	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> Previous reviewer (H. Savage) promoted to new position; had to rescind her offer to assist. New reviewer identified (Greg Lanier of UWF, former NCHC President); Review scheduled March 5-7. Appointments being arranged. Self study in progress.	4.1	√

<p><i>Form campus committees that regularly review aspects/results of program</i> Advisory Board now meeting regularly (2x/semester) Next mtg. slated for 12/05 Honors Council in development (15/18 representatives identified. 1st meeting held 11/14)</p>	4.2.a	√
<p><i>Revise Mission and Vision Statements</i> Mission statement refined. Core Values identified and posted on website. Vision statement remains to be developed.</p>	4.2.b	
<p><i>Perform overhaul of program website</i> In progress. New pages in Nov. for Forms Library; History of Program;</p>	5.1.a.i.	
<p><i>Publish quarterly newsletter</i> Soliciting articles for Winter edition, due out in mid-January.</p>	5.1.a.ii	
<p><i>Utilize social networking media to communicate... events & opportunities</i> Honors Program Facebook Page and Twitter accounts established, with multiple weekly postings (FB 60+ to date over 10 weeks) (Twitter 40+ tweets in 10 weeks). Average hundreds of clicks, likes, page hits weekly. Wikipedia entry in development. To consider: Pinterest; LinkedIn; Instagram; produce “vidbits” for YouTube; develop blog</p>	5.1.a.iii	
<p><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.</p>	5.1.b	√
<p><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.</p>	5.1.c	
<p><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</p>	5.2.a	
<p><i>Organize informational events at regional “feeder” schools</i> Recruitment @ Bennett. visited w/ students 11/21 from 4 Salisbury / HS</p>	5.2.b	
<p><i>Create honors ambassadors program, “Vanguard”</i> Complete: 19 students “knighted” in ceremony. Possibly more in January.</p>	5.2.c 6.2.c	
<p><i>Partner with Advancement & Development ...</i> Working w/ Diriker on verbage for “Giving to Honors” weblink.</p>	5.4	
<p><i>Dedicate a residential facility as an honors living-learning community</i> Met with B. Rashaw 11/22 to plan 2014 honors housing, esp. for frosh (to be required)</p>	6.1	
<p><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.</p>	6.2.c	
<p><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)</p>	7.1.a	
<p><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.</p>	7.1.c	
<p><i>Increase # of transfer students / Sign MoU / articulation agreements with Comm. Colls.</i> Mtg. w/ Dir. of Wor-Wic CC honors Director, Reddish. (10/04); secured templates of MoU from Sims-Tucker. Working w/ Chairs to ensure transferability of courses.</p>	7.1.d	
<p><i>Increase internal admissions</i> To date, 12 internal applications received (1st-3rd semester students). Others visiting office to speak w/ Director. Will send mass invitation to high-performing Freshmen once Fall grades post.</p>	7.1.e	
<p><i>Increase faculty / staff involvement in honors...</i> Advisory Board formed; Council formed. Mtgs. With various staff / admin. Officers as listed above.</p>	7.4.f 7.4.g	

<p><i>Situate honors program as a locus of leadership...</i></p> <p>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</p> <p>Assistant Director Roberts, UMES coordinator for TMCF, organized travel for 10+ students (3 honors) attending Leadership Institute (Nov.; Washington, DC)</p>	8	√
<p><i>Increase the visibility and value of honors at UMES.... Locus of campus leadership</i></p> <p>Honors Present at “Handle your Business Night” (11/18)</p>	8.2	