



October 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> Drafted foundational plan for program of study – under review; approval pending. Senior thesis / capstone project across all undergrad. depts. in dialogue / in-progress	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> Finalized experimental honors seminar in PSYC, Spr 14: “Mysteries of the Mind”	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> UMES honors medallions ordered from Jostens for Dec/May ceremonies Room reserved in Henson Ctr for reception for Dec. graduates & families	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> 10 students attended NAAHP (Oct.; Daytona). 8 presented research, others engaged in conference activity. # of students impacted by Gov’t shutdown (Title III) 2 students attending 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) New UMES honors memberships filed with MCHC and NRHC as new venues for honors students to engage with honors education	2.2	√
<i>Invite guest speakers to address honors students (preprofessional / philanthropic, etc.)</i> Partnered w/ Dr. Baughman to bring Dawn Mills from “Kids of Honour”: 10/29 Cancelled to accommodate President Bell’s mtg. re: HBCU court decision Dr. Wade organizing visit from “The Thirst Project” for 11/12	3.1.c	√

<p><i>Develop honors-specific, short-term study abroad opportunities</i></p> <p>Dr. Wade, in role as Consultant, advertising and promoting Rome & Paris trip. Several UMES students (inc'g honors) have paid deposits. Last year's Brazil program = 0 UMES student rep. While not exclusively "honors" and non-credit-bearing, this Title III initiative is a step in the right direction.</p>	3.3.d	√
<p><i>Schedule NCHC-approved external review / site visit</i></p> <p>Reviewer identified (Hallie Savage of Clarion U. of PA); scheduling pending. UMES must perform self study of Honors Program first. In progress.</p>	4.1	√
<p><i>Form campus committees that regularly review aspects/results of program</i></p> <p>Advisory Board: met 10/03 to be charged; review (& subsequently vet) strategic plan Next mtg. slated for 12/05</p> <p>Honors Council in development (11/18 departmental representatives identified. First meeting scheduled for 11/14)</p>	4.2.a	√
<p><i>Revise Mission and Vision Statements</i></p> <p>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></p> <p>In progress. New pages in Oct for "Why Join Honors?" Admissions. HSA, Council. Embedded Google Analytics widget to track visits for assessment / PR purposes.</p>	5.1.a.i.	
<p><i>Publish quarterly newsletter</i></p> <p>Inaugural issue of <i>Volamus</i> published on schedule, 10/15. 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></p> <p>Honors Program Facebook Page and Twitter accounts established, with multiple weekly postings (FB 50+ to date over 7 weeks) (Twitter 35+ tweets in 7 weeks). Average hundreds of clicks, likes, page hits weekly. Wikipedia entry in development. To consider: Pinterest; LinkedIn; Instagram; produce "vidbits" on advising, student profiles for YouTube; develop a blog?</p>	5.1.a.iii	
<p><i>Form campus groups to institutionalize honors engagement, awareness, etc.</i></p> <p>Advisory Board complete (Mtg 10/03). Curricular Council formed – 1st mtg 11/14. Vanguard (student ambassadors) in place. Honors Student Association officers elected.</p>	5.1.b	√
<p><i>Appoint Director full member of Deans Council</i></p> <p>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></p> <p>Met w/ Admissions & Admin. Computing to streamline online application Table, Staff, and Vanguard @ Fall Open Houses</p> <p>Director is new Chair of Senate Admissions Committee</p>	5.2.a	
<p><i>Organize informational events at regional "feeder" schools</i></p> <p>Made contact with Bennett HS. Lane & Roberts to visit w/ students there 11/21 from 4 Salisbury / local High Schools</p>	5.2.b	
<p><i>Create honors ambassadors program, "Vanguard"</i></p> <p>Complete: 19 students "knighted" in ceremony. Possibly more in January.</p>	5.2.c 6.2.c	
<p><i>Partner with Advancement & Development ...</i></p> <p>Working w/ Diriker on verbage for "Giving to Honors" weblink.</p> <p>15 Honors students represented the program at President's Donor Reception (10/16); 2 of 3 student speeches were provided by honors program students, Lang & Locklear.</p>	5.4	
<p><i>Dedicate a residential facility as an honors living-learning community</i></p> <p>A "walk-through" of Murphy to estimate potential. Scheduling meeting with Jones to discuss 2014 honors housing, esp. for frosh (to be required)</p>	6.1	
<p><i>Inaugurate an honors ambassadors program, Vanguard (see also above)</i></p> <p>Complete, w/ 19 initiates. Annual invitations, starting in F 2014 primarily to Frosh (notably absent from first cohort) 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></p> <p>Prelim. Mtg. 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></p> <p>Honors-specific essay and résumé now required in application. Met 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></p> <p>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></p> <p>Performed relevant query (6-50 earned hours, 4.0 GPA). Email invitation and application info. Sent to 14 students. 5 scheduled appts.; 3 applied; 3 to be admitted.</p>	7.1.e	
<p><i>Increase faculty / staff involvement in honors...</i></p> <p>Director held series of “Meet & Greet” receptions with Chairs. Somewhat disappointing turn-out (8 of 18 chairs participated), 10/02, 10/03, 10/08.</p> <p>Advisory Board formed; Council formed.</p> <p>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>Director gave keynote address at National Society of Collegiate Scholars induction ceremony, 10/23</p>	8.2	