HONOR COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 17th, 2023

I. **ROLL CALL (20/27 present)**
    A. Tyler Sesker - Absent
    B. Hamza Aziz - **Present**
    C. Jonathan Swap - **Present (via Zoom)**
    D. Laura Howard - **Present**
    E. Nishita Ghanate - **Present**
    F. Rachel Liesegang - **Present**
    G. David Armstrong - **Present**
    H. William Whitehurst Jr. - **Present (via Zoom)**
    I. Adrian Mamaril - **Present**
    J. Stephanie McKee - **Present (via Zoom)**
    K. Brianna Kamdoum - **Present**
    L. Carson Breus - **Present (via Zoom)**
    M. Tim Dodson - **Present**
    N. Maille Bowerman - Absent
    O. Alexander Church - **Present**
    P. Kasra Lekan - **Present**
    Q. Lukas Lehman - **Present**
    R. Daniel Elliott - Absent
    S. MK O'Boyle - **Present**
    T. Brian Florenzo - Absent
    U. Lam-Phong Pham - **Present (via Zoom)**
    V. Emily Brobbey - Absent
    W. Sophie Campbell - Absent
    X. Skylar Tessler - Absent
    Y. Quana Dennis - **Present**
    Z. Matthew Bonner - **Present**
    AA. Brendan Puglisi - **Present**

II. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
    A. None.

III. **EXECUTIVE REPORTS**
    A. Hamza Aziz, Chair
        1. Next Committee meeting, Law reps MK O'Boyle and Daniel Elliot will conduct a due process training. Ideally, Law representatives will do this training every year for the Honor Committee.
        2. Support Officer Interview Logistics
            a) With the meeting minutes email tonight, will send out the guidelines, interview questions, and score submission forms.
            b) Please review open slots on the sign-up spreadsheet and fill-in if you're available.
        3. Board of Visitors Questions Recap

          a) Connected with Tish Jennings and Michael Kennedy. Will be coordinating with FAC to work on Faculty Senate presentation this Fall. A theme was their appreciation of the Honor Committee referendum being student self-governance in action. Discussed the ideal of Honor evolving over time.

  B. Laura Howard, Vice Chair for Hearings
    1. Preparations for upcoming Hearings in October. Asks people to volunteer to be the Official Observer for one Hearing, and for representatives to communicate if they cannot serve as panelists.
  C. Nishita Ghanate, Vice Chair for Investigations
    1. 6 active investigations. Experienced difficulty in staffing the most recent Investigative Panel. Credits Alexander Church for staffing every Investigative Panel this term.
  D. Carson Breus, Vice Chair for Sanctions
    1. The students who have been sanctioned to the education course have received scheduling and logistics for the course.
  E. Rachel Liesegang, Vice Chair for the Undergraduate Community
    1. Had our first Support Officer pool meeting this month. Encourages representatives to sign up for SO interviews.
  F. Tyler Sesker, Vice Chair for the Graduate Community
    1. None.
  G. Lukas Lehman, Vice Chair for the Treasury
    1. None.

IV. SUBCOMMITTEE & WORKING GROUP REPORTS

  A. Policies and Procedures Subcommittee
    1. Hamza Aziz: Community engagement document is in the works; planned to be released to Committee next Sunday as a Q&A-style. Will meet this Friday.
  B. Faculty Advisory Committee
    1. Brianna Kamdoum: Every representative should have received an email from the Faculty Advisory Committee. Asks representatives to obtain the listservs for their schools' faculties and to introduce themselves to faculty. Asks representatives to formulate plans for meeting faculty this week. Met with faculty about including a portion of US citation and academic standards on an exam for international students.
  C. Community Relations and Diversity Advocacy Committee
    1. First meeting/dinner is being planned. Accepted new members this week.

V. REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

  A. MK O'Boyle, LAW: Interviewed 8 support officers this week and will be accepting all of them.
  B. Rachel Liesegang, CLAS: The College Representatives are planning to hand-deliver the Honor booklet to the department heads in the College and to talk about the multi-sanction system with them.
  C. David Armstrong, DARDEN: Designing a feedback form for "Honor Day" at Darden to ensure that it happens again next year.

D. Brianna Kamdoum, COMM: Sent an email with Carson Breus to introduce themselves and informed them about co-sponsorships.

E. Quana Dennis, ED: Met with the Ed Council about having an Honor event, shared a flyer with student affairs.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. None.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Generative-AI Discussion, Continued

1. Review the recommendations of [Gen-AI Task Force Report](#) and how Honor can contribute, proactive community resources/initiatives/outreach efforts to explore AI uses

2. Support Officer input

   a) Nishita Ghanate: Most of the Support Officers said they use AI forn summarizing long readings and proofreading for grammatical answers. Many of them said that their assignments were written in ways that it would be impossible to use AI. They think the Honor Committee should do a better job of defining what kinds of AI use constitute an Honor offense. Think that Honor should educate students about how to use AI in ways that do not constitute an Honor offense.

3. Lukas Lehman: We can show ways to use AI that are still Honorable, and not say what is not an Honor offense. We can say it's okay to check grammar, for example, to show how you can use it productively, rather than explicitly saying what not to do.

4. Steph McKee: Do Honor's rules supersede professor's rules?

   a) Hamza Aziz: No, respective faculty course policies is what we enforce. If we, as an Honor Committee, say that it may be appropriate to use in certain context, for example, AI for course summarization, but the professor says it is unauthorized, it could still be an Honor offense.

5. David Armstrong: What about the idea of a single source of truth for that, having one place where a student knows if they can use AI?

   a) Nishita Ghanate: The issues can be when the professors are not explicit about when students can and cannot use AI. The best use is to get professors to clarify in their syllabi if students can use AI or not.

   b) David Armstrong: Ideally, we want professors to be upfront about their AI policies from the beginning.

   c) Hamza Aziz: A good goal is for AI use to be acknowledged in every syllabus at some point. The Center for Teaching Excellence put together a "Teaching Hub" that has an AI statement generator for professors. The Honor Committee could explore a "Learning Hub" with resources for students. The faculty made a hub for faculty, so the students could make one for students.

6. Alexander Church: The AI task force did encourage mandating AI statements. Apparently only 23% of classes had clear AI statements, which could be good to

bring up at meetings, like with ones with the Faculty Senate.

7. Steph McKee: A lot of what is allowed from the faculty perspective is dictated by the Dean. The professors who have made AI statements have done so on their own, and other faculty may be waiting for statements to come down from their Deans. Since there is no official statement from UVA, they may be waiting.

8. Brianna Kamdoum: Every school has their own structure for pushing certain information. Some start at the dean level, but others are faculty-led. There's just not a lot of decisiveness at the faculty level on an AI statement to put in their syllabus. A lot of schools aren't sure what their stances on AI are, and they're not really sure how to use AI. For some schools, it's just not a priority for them. There's just confusion on both ends.

9. Rachel Liesegang: Is there a role Honor can play in making faculty members more aware about the opportunities of AI?

10. Brianna Kamdoum: Students have a good role to play. Faculty are also using AI for their own research. Our FAC events could even be AI-centered. Reps can work with their respective schools to figure out where their schools are on AI, and keep the student perspectives in their minds. We can start at the school level.

11. David Armstrong: If a professor isn't doing a statement for one class, they may not be doing it for their other classes. Maybe there is a feedback method we can use to figure out the low-hanging fruit. If we're getting a lot of feedback from one school, we can start there, instead of going out to every school, which would be a massive ask.

12. Hamza Aziz: At the College level, we can talk to faculty who are less in tune with AI. Encourages every representative to have this discussions again and formulate tangible things to do, like student outreach surveys, FAC events, etc.

B. Popular Assembly Discussion: *"Every year, the Honor Committee shall, in accordance with its most fundamental purpose, convene a Popular Assembly open to the general student body with the following aims: to facilitate discussion on the state of the Honor System; to ascertain the pressing concerns of the community; and to generate potential measures to be put before the student body for consideration."* (Honor Constitution)

1. Hamza Aziz: The original brainstorming has been to have Popular Assembly in late March. Will establish a larger working group with Educators as we get closer to Popular Assembly. The core group of four will be Hamza, Rachel, Will, & Amelle.

2. Partnering with the Alumni Association, and meeting with them this Wednesday.

3. Rachel Liesegang: It is a week of events, where each school's representatives put on their own events. We typically do it the week before school-wide elections in February, but some people have brought up doing it in the Fall. This has the advantage of not learning new ideas about Honor during the end of our term, and bad weather. It would be an accelerated timelines if we tried to do November

4. Alexander Church: Likes having Popular Assembly in the fall because it allows for greater responses to feedback, but it may be a plan for future years because it is such short notice.

5. Nishita Ghanate: Could we do it earlier in the spring semester?

6. Hamza Aziz: One idea was having a session to encourage people to run for Honor

Committee representatives, so we can put it before the deadline to register.

7. Will Hancock: Having it closer to the end of term could be good thing and spur on the next Committee with a strong direction. This Committee did well because it had such a strong direction.
8. Lukas Lehman: If there's a possibility to do November, we should go for it.
9. Nishita Ghanate: Popular Assembly will give us a lot of feedback on all of the changes we made, so we want to have some of our term left to make changes.
10. Brianna Kamdoum: Endorses November, ro early spring.
11. Laura Howard: Asks when they typically start planning.
12. Rachel Liesegang: The last Popular Assembly was a few years ago, so hard to tell.
13. Hamza Aziz: November may be hard with all the planning we want to do for kicking off events, closing events, etc. November may be too soon, but early spring may be possible.
14. Rachel Liesegang: Late January/early February may be good.
15. Hamza Aziz: We will also talk to the Alumni Association about this.
16. Jonathan Swap: For the last Popular Assembly, the process for coming up with events wasn't too bad. We split up the Educator pool and had them come up with events for each day, and Exec was a resource for logistics, ordering food, and reserving spaces. In favor of November, because a lot of students are confused about multi-sanction and AI. We need to get a touchpoint for how people are feeling, and want more time to get things passed. Last time, it was 6 days long and we had 3 groups, and it wasn't too bad, so recommends late fall.
17. Hamza Aziz: Offers a straw poll on if people are in favor of late Fall. 9 are in favor. Offers a poll if people are in favor of early spring. 5 are in favor.
18. David Armstrong: Recommends asking Alumni Association for their input.
19. Hamza Aziz: Yes. We'll also plan a big thing at the end, like a 5K or something, that can become a tradition for Popular Assembly.
20. Brianna Kamdoum: Asks if support officers were shown the new Code of Ethics.
21. Hamza Aziz: Yes, they were emailed it last week.

VIII.   PUBLIC COMMENT
   A. None.

The meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m. The Honor Committee will meet in person in Newcomb Hall on Sunday, September 24th, at 7:00 p.m.