

HONOR COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – MARCH 23, 2025

I. ROLL CALL (19/30 Present)

Seamus Oliver	P
Alex Church	P
Carson Breus	P
Thomas Ackleson	P
Ian Novak	P
Will Hancock	P
Laura Howard	P
Alicia Phan	A
McKenzie Jones	P
Suleiman Abdulkadir	P
Michael Sirh	A
Sheryl Loden	A
Simran Havaladar	A
Andrew Cornfeld	A
Rachel Fellman	P
Loi Dawkins	A
Brittany Toth	P
Meredith DeLong-Maxey	A
Clare Striegel	A
Cassidy Dufour	P
Ayda Mengistie	P
Mary Holland Mason	P
Margaret Zirwas	P
Hannah Lipinski	P
Penelope Molitz	P
Nile Liu	P
Lam-Phong Pham	A
Ben Makarechian	P
Vivian Mok	A
Bijoy Ghosh	A

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

III. EXECUTIVE REPORTS

- A. Laura Howard, Chair
 - 1. Preparations for Graves.
 - 2. Marsh meeting.

3. Pie a president.
 4. Interview with Lexie from CD.
 5. Memorial for the student who passed away from meningitis.
 6. Search committee meeting for new provost.
 7. Met with the president and SMBOV for UVA Wise.
 8. Planning the semi formal.
 9. Filling new representatives.
 10. Dinner at next and final meeting, special surprise. April 6th.
- B. Seamus Oliver, Vice Chair for Investigations
1. There are seven cases under active Investigation.
 2. Implemented the by-laws passed in early January.
- C. Alex Church, Vice Chair for Hearings
1. Hearing on Friday, April 4th
- D. Carson Breus, Vice Chair for Sanctions
1. April 6th PS.
 2. New events you can sign up for:
 - a) Carter Mountain, Law School Tour/Q&A session.
- E. Will Hancock, Vice Chair for the Undergraduate Community
1. Honor-UJC field day on 05/04.
- F. Ian Novak, Vice Chair for the Graduate Community
1. Wrapped up transition file for incoming Batten reps and incoming VCGC. Looking at my successes and failures to help with their start.
 2. Met with Batten staff to help improve relations.
- G. Thomas Ackleson, Vice Chair for Operations
1. Co-spos passed \$70K since the start of the term.
 2. Guest speaker today from UBE, Zach.

IV. **GUEST SPEAKER**

- A. Zach Lederer, Chair of the University Board of Elections
1. Presentation on election, how Honor can support elections, etc.

V. **SUBCOMMITTEE & WORKING GROUP REPORTS**

- A. Policies and Procedures Committee
1. Margaret: Working on our end of year memo, which will be released soon.
- B. Faculty Advisory Committee
1. No updates.
- C. Community Relations and Diversity Advisory Committee
1. Ben: April 10, Queer Student outreach. Will be in touch with exec on staffing. Glad it will come together before the term ends.
- D. Data and Research Committee
1. Max: Recruiting new participants, 80 responses so far, should be done with the study in a few weeks or so.

E. Ad-hoc Subcommittee on Sanctions

1. Will: Busy meeting on Friday, finalized recommendations for future sanctioning policy makers on the content and structure of our body. Putting together an end of the year report on our accomplishments, recommendations, and possible case statistics.

VI. **REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS**

- A. None.

VII. **OLD BUSINESS**

- A. None.

VIII. **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Reflect on this Committee's term, areas of success and areas for improvement.

1. Laura: This can be policy ideas, events that we had, etc. What guidance should we give to the next group?
2. Will: Dealing with ambitious, very prepared SOs. We had a few stumbles but we were able to loop them into our policy considerations. SOs and SSOs should feel empowered to come and talk.
3. Thomas: Fixing the Zoom thing is a good idea.
4. Margaret: We did a good job of community engagement. Co-sponsorships were really successful, people saw Honor in a lot of places. Also the Chaps tab after the lockdown. Tons of people saw it, we acted as a Committee resource.
5. Seamus: Second that, massive shoutouts to Thomas and Laura for getting lots of co-spos out the door. And Honor week was a lot with the weather, etc. And it still really worked well.
6. Alex: We did a lot in terms of policy, but a lot of it was more devise and conflict-ridden than ideal. It was hard to piece together how much was going on. A streamlined method for getting ideas to votable issues is a good idea.
7. Will: For as much stress as that caused, I liked hearing things getting knocked around a lot. More communication is good, conversations, etc. We got lots of better ideas from that. I didn't realize how helpful it has people to move with big ideas.
8. Thomas: More visualizations, presentations, etc. Generally easier to listen to, etc.
9. Laura: Having more guest speakers is also a great idea. Lots of room for improvement there.
10. Will: Next VCUC should focus a lot on community building for SOs and Committee.

B. Develop Selections & Recruitment recommendations for the next Committee, for both Support Officers and Representatives.

1. Laura: One regret we have is that we only focused on this over the summer last year, should start earlier this year. Lean and small vs. Big recruiting class.
2. Alex: In the I/C pool, we have a lot of people. Almost too many to staff easily/everyone. A lot of second years are applying in too. That's a good thing: they have the best idea of what Honor means, but it's hard to staff them. I support 20-25 incoming I/Cs.
3. Thomas: Small and lean, talks about I/C class with Mary Holland, etc. Making a tighter community feel.
4. Laura: I agree, also support making the application more intense to help identify the most engaged SOs.
5. Will: I think being bigger and having more SOs that are in their own communities at UVA is a positive thing for the Committee. The more students that have friends, know someone on Honor, etc., the better. I also like the idea of recombining the pools, addresses Alex's point. That's the only way it works for Honor to be big.
6. Mary Holland: Echoing Thomas, for the more engaged SOs, it really wasn't just the training class but the community that was built. Also having SSOs and exec who are readily available.
7. Carson: I think Honor should be very small, in terms of case processing, we want people who are experienced and dedicated. I also like the idea of rebranding Educators as "Honor Ambassadors."
8. Cassidy: I agree with Carson, especially looking at the Law School SOs. Goes back to Thomas' point, you need to make sure people stick around. It takes awhile to develop those skills, having an Honor Apprenticeship program could work well. Could help identify who is the most interested, etc.
9. Seamus: The core events of S&R is the interview week. I think more and more that those aren't the best way to filter the people who are qualified from the qualified and dedicated. Whether it be a massive Honor or a lean and mean pool, we need to work on improving the S&R process so we can tell earlier on who falls into what camp. S&R co-chair's credit, they presented new questions that make the written application a little more difficult.
10. Mary Holland: Going back to Cassidy's point, recruiting from the under-represented schools is a good idea. Tailoring outreach, training to those smaller schools, etc. Is a good idea.
11. Margaret: Audition process with a prep process, interview, etc. Could help filter. Making it a bigger deal. The version of that right now isn't very realistic. Shows dedication and if they are prepared properly. Also a psychological thing, people who do that are more likely to stick around. We should focus on passion and commitment.

12. Will: Educators do that and it works.
13. Carson: We talked about making it similar to the Comm club process. Giving students homework for interviews is a good idea.
- C. Review the schedule for the Graves Mountain Lodge Retreat.
 1. Pushed to the next Committee meeting.
- D. Discuss Covered IR Offenses and potential adjustments.
 1. Pushed to the next Committee meeting.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

The Committee adjourned at 7:53 PM. The Committee will reconvene on April 6 at 7:00 PM.