

HONOR COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – FEBRUARY 18th, 2024

I. ROLL CALL (22/29 Present)

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

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

III. EXECUTIVE REPORTS

- A. Hamza Aziz, Chair
 - 1. Spring S&R Updates—will select new support officers tonight, who will begin full training semester soon. Thanks senior and other support officers for their ability and willingness to conduct an additional, unplanned training semester.
 - 1. Additionally, training three restorative ethics seminar facilitators in the coming weeks, with Educators. Planning on hosting 3-4 weekly seminar sessions of the restorative ethics seminar in the second quarter of this semester.

2. Co-sponsored Gradfest mugs with Fourth Year Trustees for graduation mugs, which will be distributed February 19-23 in the Bookstore.
 3. New representatives will be elected by February 28 for most schools. Encourages representatives to think about their transitions and to contact their successors. Also encourages representatives to save their documents in a Box folder.
- B. Nishita Ghanate, Vice Chair for Investigations
1. 3 active investigations.
- C. Laura Howard, Vice Chair for Hearings
1. Planning the February 25 Hearing. Asks representatives to respond to her email.
- D. Carson Breus, Vice Chair for Sanctions
1. Hamza Aziz: Carson will be hosting a Panel for Sanction at 8 p.m. today
- E. Rachel Liesegang, Vice Chair for the Undergraduate Community
1. Thanks everyone for their participation in Honor Week. Will partner with UBE to help them table for upcoming university-wide elections. Will host a lunch with the Karsh Institute's Student Advisory Council this Friday at 12 p.m.; all reps are welcome to attend.
- F. Tyler Sesker, Vice Chair for the Graduate Community
1. Have a couple of co-sponsorships that came in recently, approved 3 co-sponsorships last week.
- G. Lukas Lehman, Vice Chair for the Treasury
1. None.

IV. **SUBCOMMITTEE & WORKING GROUP REPORTS**

- A. Policies and Procedures Subcommittee
1. Hamza Aziz: Working on a one-pager as a resource for Hearing panelists, with the information that the Hearing Chair reads aloud several times.
 2. Will Hancock: Also talked about clarifying communication with students about the right to not testify, since some students can feel like they have to testify, but they can choose not to if they want
 3. Daniel Elliot: Encourages P&P to look at the student's right to testify last, for it could become an issue with joint hearings
- B. Faculty Advisory Subcommittee
1. Brianna Kamdoum: Have faculty and TA recognitions coming up soon, will reach out to representatives for suggestions for faculty.
- C. Community Relations and Diversity Advisory Subcommittee
1. Tyler Sesker: None.

V. **REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS**

- A. Jennifer Boywer, SCPS: Ended up with 10 people attending a lunchtime Zoom Honor meeting. One school administrator attended. Gave \$25 gift cards to the first five people to log on and remain on until the end. Also did trivia. Working on hosting an evening weekend and a weekend meeting.

- B. Tyler Sesker, BATT: The other Batten representative, Skylar Tessler, planned a lot of events. Had a lot of interactions with graduate students and professors. Had a trivia day and grab and go meals.
- C. Alexander Church, SEAS: Credits Simran Havaladar and Margaret Zirwas for their hard work in their second Selections and Recruitment cycle.
- D. Jonathan Swap, CLAS: Reached out to the SDA president, got contacts to SDAC and the Disability Action Committee to support students with accommodations during finals.
- E. Will Whitehurst, DARD: Encouraging the new Darden representatives to come to Committee next week.

VI. BUSINESS

A. Popular Assembly Recap

1. What went well? What notes should be passed down?

- 1. Hamza Aziz: Have already started some internal tracking and what things could be done better in the future.
- 2. Laura Howard: A lot of people liked when Engineering representatives and educators went to their Foundations of Engineering classes. It brought a lot of people to other Honor Week events.
- 3. Jonathan Swap: The raffle was a huge success, maybe come up with a couple other incentives, so we can boost attendance even more.
- 4. Rachel Liesegang: Maybe we can do ten slightly smaller prizes instead of two huge prizes, but the raffle did a great job incentivizing people to come. We also went to the Commerical Law classes and made Honor events extra credit, which was another great incentives. We should also make sure we are promoting all of our events in the right channels and should avoid popular class times. We saw the most attendance with events later in the day.
- 5. Hamza Aziz: Encourages representatives to keep a record of their events. Will send out a spreadsheet tonight for representatives to fill out, so people in the future can see what went well. In January, we referenced that a write-up will come out of Honor Week—we got over 400 survey handouts, took notes at all of our discussions, and got a lot of feedback. We'll put together a report on the input, and have it ready for next Committee to consider. Planning on it being an email to representatives.
- 6. Rachel Liesegang: It would be nice to have it on the website, maybe it could be sent in the end-of-semester University-wide emails.

2. Graves Retreat Planning

- 1. Review tentative training schedule for new Reps.
- 2. Hamza Aziz: Graves is the on-boarding weekend for new Committee representatives. We're including sanctioning training this year, since we are much better-equipped to tell representatives about their responsibilities. We're also starting off with an EOCR training.
- 3. Alex Church: Asks if we plan to have a Committee meeting on the Sunday of retreat.
- 4. Rachel Liesegang: Unless we have an important thing to vote on, then no.
- 5. Hamza Aziz: We'll plan not to meet on the 24th.
- 6. Daniel Elliot: Should adopt a voting procedure that makes more sense. We have blocked off a lot of time to vote on one position. We do these

elections in a wildly inefficient way, and there's better ways for people to be heard. We could have candidates give a 5 minute speech, then have people in the room talk for half an hour, then vote. The three hours of question rounds do not make much of a difference.

7. MK O'Boyle: Seconds Daniel Elliot's point. Thinks it's important to keep in mind that we have a diverse group on Committee, so it is difficult for a lot of people's schedules. Having time limits could be an easy fix.
8. Tyler Sesker: Feels like the issue last year was bringing people back to ask additional questions, so wondering how we would address that.
9. Nishita Ghanate: Maybe we limit the amount of times we bring people back to a maximum of two times. Having an additional round of questioning is important for people to make up their minds.
10. Alex Church: The reason we don't want to set a time limit is that a lot of people understand the gravity of the election, so it could be irresponsible to set a time limit.
11. Jonathan Swap: Think that there was a lot of value in talking about different aspects and whose vision will lead us in the future. It's an important question, since it'll steer the entire of Committee for the next 12 months. Agree that we can limit rounds of questioning. Encourages representatives to have an open mind, since it'll slow delays.
12. Daniel Elliot: Every year, people spend a lot of time talking to find out how many people agree with them and how many don't, then try to change their minds. People can make up their minds quickly, and recognize the gravity of this situation. The longer you make it go, the worse everyone will feel at the end of it.
13. Will Whitehurst: It feels like the first few sessions on Saturday morning are information-related, then it becomes about goal-setting. Suggests moving the restorative ethics seminar to earlier in the day, since it is still information-sharing. Suggests moving the norms section to once the new Chair has been elected.
14. Rachel Liesegang: Saturday seems very busy, suggests putting something else on Friday night, maybe the "Intro to Honor" session.
15. David Armstrong: Enjoyed the retreat last year, but the question remains what the purpose is of bringing everyone to Graves. It seems like the goal is to do learning and development for the new members, to have elections, and to have everyone get to know each other. To that effect, the schedule could have some more social aspects and more structure on Friday night. You could also move an event that everyone must participate in to Sunday, to encourage people to stay for the entire weekend.
16. Daniel Elliot: This has been a problem disproportionately affecting graduate students, since they may have more obligations. Encourages us to make good, targeted use of our time would probably be a good idea. We should be more sensitive to the differences of life that graduate students bring.
17. Hamza Aziz: Had been saying that Friday was semi-optional, so will now encourage people to come the whole weekend. But, can make Friday less training-heavy, in case people need to come to Graves on Saturday morning because of their life experiences.

18. MK O'Boyle: Thought that the Friday night dinner was great, echoes points about adding incentives to the Friday and the Sunday. Was also confused about what the positions were that people are running for about what the positions are. Not everyone there has a lot of institutional knowledge, so we could fill that gap.
 19. Alex Church: We all generally agree that the stuff on the schedule is important, thanks him for putting this together.
 20. Will Whitehurst: Echoes Alex Church's statement, encourages people to put this on new representatives' radars as soon as possible.
3. Potential Vice-Chair Role Changes
1. Considering changes to current descriptions, like VCGC as CRDAC Chair, VCGC as co-sponsorship administrator, and VCT (to take on more operational tasks (VCO)).
 2. Hamza Aziz: We only have two Committee meetings left, so we should be thinking about any final bylaw tweaks. Have talked to Vice Chairs at the Exec level about whether VCGC and VCUC should share the CRDAC chair position or if it should be an appointment, if the VCGC's responsibility for co-sponsorships should shift to the VCT as a partnership, and if the VCT should take on more operational tasks, such as Pool administrations, room reservations, record keeping.
 3. Tyler Sesker: CRDAC Chair and VCGC are separate roles, but the same person. I was doing translations of the bylaws, working with international students, doing initiatives with athletes, working with SAC. As the next Committee comes in, would like the next person to do more with the role. Thinks that CRDAC Chair should be a completely separate role, since it's an important position that can't get the time and attention it needs if someone on Committee has a lot of other responsibilities.
 4. Rachel Liesegang: Agrees with Tyler Sesker. Opening this position to anyone on Committee could mean that this position does not automatically go to a graduate student could be good. It could also allow CRDAC to do its own independent work, like FAC and P&P.
 5. Hamza Aziz: The bylaws don't mention FAC or P&P, so this change would just remove CRDAC as a bylaw definition. If we wanted to keep the definition of CRDAC in the bylaws, we could add in definitions for P&P and FAC.
 6. Will Hancock: Agrees to add definitions for FAC and P&P, and should not take the CRDAC definition out.
 7. Daniel Elliot: If we include them in the bylaws, they have to exist. This could be limiting. We need to think carefully about what we make a "forever" thing and what should be an option.
 8. Alex Church: We also have things like Selections and Recruitment and the Sanctioning Guidelines Working Group, so we should make it clear that we can have other subcommittees too.
 9. Hamza Aziz: We will have formal language to vote on this for next Committee.
 10. Lukas Lehman: As far as adding operational responsibilities to VCT, I mainly just manage the budget and the P card. Think that this role is a

support for everyone else in their positions, and encompasses more than the treasury, so we could delineate these tasks.

11. Daniel Elliot: The treasurer should be the person responsible for co-sponsorships. This should be one job.
12. Brianna Kamdoun: Thinks that, since it supports other positions, we should clarify the roles of VCUC and VCGC. They're very similar, which doesn't help with our transparency.
13. Hamza Aziz: It also sounds like we will vote on moving co-sponsorships to VCT next week. We should consider having some allusion to the respective VCUC or VCGC work with co-sponsored organizations to build bridges with the community. The VCT will give them the co-sponsorship, then the VCUC or VCGC will continue supporting them.
14. Daniel Elliot: Encourages putting this in the bylaws. This way, the VCUC and VCGC can continue these relationships and supporting them.
15. Hamza Aziz: As a review, the language will be removing CRDAC from the VCGC's definition, will include definitions for P&P and FAC, will transition co-sponsorships to the VCT, will include language with the VCGC and VCUC about sustaining support, then adding operations to the VCO.
16. Daniel Elliot: There should also be a position on Exec for someone to be a secretary and a record-keeping. It should not be Laura's job to be both VCH and Secretary. Also suggests adding in a Parliamentarian.
17. Rachel Liesegang: Recommends adding minute-taking to the description of the Vice Chair for Operations position.
18. Hamza Aziz: So, we'll remove the part of the bylaws about appointing the secretary.
19. Daniel Elliot: But, we should keep the language about appointing ew officers as needed.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m. The Honor Committee will meet in person in Newcomb Hall on Sunday, February 25th, at 7:00 p.m.