

HONOR COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – FEBRUARY 16, 2025

I. ROLL CALL

Seamus Oliver	P
Alex Church	P
Carson Breus	P
Thomas Ackleson	A
Ian Novak	P
Will Hancock	P
Laura Howard	P
Alicia Phan	A
McKenzie Jones	A
Suleiman Abdulkadir	A
Michael Sirh	A
Sheryl Loden	P
Simran Havaladar	P
Andrew Cornfeld	P
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	A
Margaret Zirwas	A
Hannah Lipinski	A
Penelope Molitz	P
Nile Liu	P
Lam-Phong Pham	A
Ben Makarechian	P
Vivian Mok	A
Bijoy Ghosh	P

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

A. None.

III. EXECUTIVE REPORTS

A. Laura Howard, Chair

i. Honor Week: citation event with the library, mock hearing, fireside chat

- ii. Working with Penelope on new idea, more on this later
 - iii. Sky Alland and SMBOV selection committees
 - iv. Cav Daily interview about the upcoming UBE elections
 - v. ISSO meeting
 - vi. Passed housekeeping amendments with Exec, will be sent out later
 - vii. New painting of Henry St. George Tucker to go in the Honor offices
 - viii. Next AI Dorm Talk off the ground
- B. Seamus Oliver, VCI
- i. There are 7 cases under active investigation.
 - ii. I was part of the delegation sent to the Citadel for the 3rd annual Honor Conference. It was a chance to see how the federal service academies and the senior military colleges approach honor.
- C. Alex Church, VCH
- i. Hearing on Sunday.
 - ii. Including today, there are 50 days remaining in the term.
- D. Carson Breus, VCS
- i. Thank you to reps, sanctioned 17 people yesterday and 2 last week.
 - ii. PS next Sunday at 8pm after committee.
- E. Will Hancock, VCUC
- i. The Career Center event went very well, talking about values learned at UVA and transferring into the internship and job search.
 - ii. We were able to do tabling at the snowball fight at midnight, which was fun.
- F. Ian Novak, VCGC
- i. Also on the contingent that went down to the Citadel. Great that we got invited back for next year, hopefully we are able to continue to build relations with and learn from other schools.
 - ii. We had a case competition at Garrett. Unfortunately, no Batten teams signed up, but there were many good ideas from the teams in McIntire.
 - iii. I've been working a lot on the Batten dialogue dinners, about building trust within the school. Super happy to announce that over 50 people are signed up, which is around a quarter of Batten. More updates to share next week.
- G. Thomas Ackleson, VCO
- i. No updates.

IV. **SUBCOMMITTEE & WORKING GROUP REPORTS**

- A. Policies and Procedures Committee
- i. Mary Holland (via text): We met Friday to review documents for the new efficiency proposal and anticipate future improvements in investigations. Encourages committee to think about how to make expulsion protections clear to students.
- B. Faculty Advisory Committee
- i. Simran: Met Friday. Talking through initiatives for the rest of the term. Two of the ideas brought up in the case competition. First was for FAC to create videos walking through stages of the case process. Second was to start school-specific

newsletters from their Honor reps highlighting case stats and highlighting SOs in the school.

C. Community Relations and Diversity Advisory Committee

- i. Ben: CRDAC has not had a meeting since last committee. Still in contact with the QSU, trying to set up a lunch-in.

D. Data and Research Committee

- i. Rachel: We are still working on the case study, working on technical difficulties in ensuring emails do not go to spam. Scheduling times for people to come in.

E. Ad-hoc Subcommittee on Sanctions

- i. Will: Met Friday. Focused on Jack and Cassidy's proposal on the proposed amends meeting. Worked on making it more of an admission of guilt meeting. Should see some bylaw in a few weeks. We also touched on rehabilitative sanctions. No consensus reached, but more discussions to occur.

V. **REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS**

- A. Will (CLAS): Met with East Asian studies department, about AI challenges in lower-level language classes. Good to hear what they are dealing with and provide resources.

VI. **OLD BUSINESS**

- A. None.

VII. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Discuss Honor Week!

- i. Laura: I know because of the snow, we do not have a lot to reflect on, but I'm sure we could have done better, and its important to set up the new committee for success. I received an email from an administrator in SCPS expressing that they wished we had more Zoom events to be accessible to SCPS. Second, maybe not hosting it in February considering the snow.
- ii. Will: One thing that will be important, considering the weather delays, having one channel of communication would be good for different events. For example, the student org roundtable was fractured in communication. Having a plan in place in future for weather is needed.
- iii. Cassidy: There was some communication that fell apart about North Grounds involvement. We were trying to tie in North Grounds and that didn't happen because of a gap in communication. Next committee should be proactive on it.
- iv. Seamus: Reporting from educator pool today, the idea I was hearing the most was doing more club outreach to some CIOs where we see students attending outside of "SSG bubble", things like more direct partnerships. For example, dance teams, a capella groups, etc. Trying to emphasize joint events to reach students where they are.
- v. Kessler (Senior Advisor): Batten has been offering clubs pizza for 10 minutes to talk about Batten. Maybe that is something that we can explore. If that's their impression of Honor, that's a good way to get into smaller groups.
- vi. Laura: Would be good to include comedy area of UVA.

- vii. Laura: Are there other UVA programs (i.e. career center, athletics) that we should try to partner with?
- viii. Carson: Could be good to partner with Karsh.
- ix. Will: Particularly with North Grounds, what are good attendance incentives, if food does not work and grad students are very busy?
- x. Cassidy: For Honor Week, we were thinking about having the Darden and Law deans leading the walking group for Run with Jim. Some of them will be there this week. A lot of it is having events on North Grounds. If we brought more of the events there, we will get turnout. Co-sponsorships have made a huge difference in awareness about Honor. If we could do one event at Darden/Law, great for getting people participating.
- xi. Laura: Is there something that you did to publicize co-sponsorships?
- xii. Cassidy: Put in the weekly email, talked to student orgs we were in and our friends were in. Was attractive to a lot of organizations. After we did it, it spread.
- xiii. Seamus: Cassidy, I know we discussed at some point, but trying to do a committee meeting at North Grounds and providing access to Honor.
- xiv. Cassidy: Something else we discussed with Charis (who's been great!) is practicing advocacy with a law professor.
- xv. Rachel: We had high attendance at the Valentine's Day event, people appreciated us reaching out to the entire school. Helpful to all be in one building.
- xvi. Andrew: People liked the grab-and-go aspect of the event.
- xvii. Laura: Were people you know aware of Honor Week?
- xviii. Caelin (Senior I/C): A lot of my friends really wanted to go to the Mock Hearing, but we didn't advertise it well.
- xix. Jack (I/C): A lot of people were excited about the CIO dinner and should be going still. Mentions hosting events outdoors at Darden.
- xx. Cassidy: Seconds Laura on possible Darden happy hours. Could also hold mock proceedings at the Law trial rooms.
- xxi. Penelope: The newsletter that you (Laura) sent out worked really well.
- xxii. Laura: That brings me to another thing I mentioned, where a professor wanted to bring a class to an event.

B. Brainstorm new University and community partners for next year

C. Consider other months to host Honor Week

- i. Laura: Do people like February? Is a different month better?
- ii. Cassidy: Law hates February, there is so much going on. Feb and March is busy due to student org elections, etc. March would not be better. I don't know about the other schools, but that might help.
- iii. Laura: What would people think about a fall Honor week?
- iv. Will: Big debate originally about November or February. End of semesters gets difficult in the College, particularly end of the spring semester, as graduating students will not be engaged. April and November are hard, but not impossible. Giving the VCUC/Chair as much time as possible to plan is good. VCUC has the whole summer to brainstorm, etc. If you moved to November, you would have to

be booking events before new people are elected. The beginning of the spring allows new SOs to be engaged, even if they can't get on a case. One of the only reasons to change it would be the weather.

- v. Cassidy: This isn't the normal weather, but is this sufficient enough to justify a change?
- vi. Laura: I don't know much about Virginia weather.
- vii. Penelope: Charlottesville hadn't seen snow like this in five years.
- viii. Laura: Later in February reduces the chance of snow?
- ix. Andrew: Good to have it now, right before Midterm 1 season.
- x. Cassidy: Maybe it's something like if we have extra educators, we could have extra staff to help run events.
- xi. Will: One thought on that is that this is already taking up around a quarter of the semester, but inspiring to go big in the rest of the semester outside of the week. Seems facially obvious, but the way we've built it could be more flexible for times that work better for other schools.
- xii. Laura: I wonder if what Honor Week looks like at the law school could work more like a finals push.
- xiii. Cassidy: Co-sponsorships are great for that, Shunkai (former VCH) said he did an announcement about Honor at journal tryouts. The law school is not conducive to a bunch of different events.
- xiv. Ayda: One success we had at the law school was the people appreciated coffee and snacks. Something that could be replicated at other times.
- xv. Cassidy: Honor applies to the community as well, so maybe opening up events to the broader Charlottesville community.
- xvi. Ayda: We mentioned LLMs in the past, but it is important to incorporate them into the Law school community and the UVA community, especially international students.
- xvii. Laura: How would we get to them?
- xviii. Cassidy: MK is working on this right now.

D. Brainstorm new communication methods and incentives

- i. Laura: We talked about communication issues internally and we talked a bit about the newsletter. How have we missed communicating with the community?
- ii. Will: A lot of my clubs have internal newsletter. If we don't have the in to deliver pizza, we could help them out or as a co-sponsorship requirement, have it in their internal newsletter.
- iii. Carson: Could go in class council newsletters and pushing to professors asking them to advertise (i.e. Comm Law).
- iv. Rachel: Probably would only work for smaller programs, but many have a group chat, could ask reps to push that.
- v. Penelope: Works well in EHD. On the TVs there were some Honor Week advertisements, but we could do more ads for individual events (i.e. QR code for CIO dinner).
- vi. Carson: How far in advance do we start advertising?
- vii. Will: Depends on platform, but generally ~ 2 weeks.

viii. Simran: Maybe doing tabling leading up to Honor Week, spreading awareness for upcoming events.

E. Brainstorm new events and types of events

F. Develop ideas for greater inclusion in Honor Week

VIII. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

A. None

The Committee adjourned at 7:57 PM and will meet next on February 23rd at 7:00 in Newcomb Hall, Room 480.