

## HONOR COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 22, 2024

### I. ROLL CALL (18/29 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	A
Michael Sirh	A
Sheryl Loden	P
Simran Havaladar	A
Andrew Cornfeld	P
Rachel Fellman	P
Loi Dawkins	A
Brittany Toth	P
Meredith DeLong-Maxey	A
Clare Striegel	P
Cassidy Dufour	A
Ayda Mengistie	P
Mary Holland Mason	P
Margaret Zirwas	A
Hannah Lipinski	P
Penelope Molitz	A
Nile Liu	P
Lam-Phong Pham	A
Ben Makarechian	P
Vivian Mok	A

### II. PUBLIC COMMENT

A. None.

### III. EXECUTIVE REPORTS

- A. Laura Howard, Chair: started planning Honor week, DS vacancy discussion, S&R saw a record number of applications (scheduling interviews), new SO dinner on 09/30 at 6:30 PM at 37. Working with alumni hall on some AI and SSG efforts, met with Simran for FAC.
- B. Seamus Oliver, VCI: Six cases under investigation.

- C. Alex Church, VCH: No hearings in selection or scheduled. SO interviews will be taking place over the week if anyone from Committee wants to attend.
- D. Carson Breus, VCS: Be on the lookout for an email about staffing a PS.
- E. Will Hancock, VCUC: We had our first dorm talk which went well. Had good attendance, and great discussion on topics and qualitative feedback. Getting the ball rolling on Honor Week and International Student Days. Also sending out outreach on community dinners, starting with school councils for a test run. Be on the lookout for signups for these dinners. Committee SO dinners will also be happening soon; there's a spreadsheet for you to sign up for dinners, hikes, other recreational activities. You'll do this with another representative and four SOs who can sign up.
- F. Ian Novak, VCGC: Excited to be back. My intention is that we do a lot more outreach to graduate students. Will and I will be at a graduate fair booth. I'm working on a side project: many professors and GTAs want an updated view on how they actually report Honor violations.
- G. Thomas Ackleson, VCO: Lots of co-sponsorships—2 new ones, one from the medical school. Recommends emailing school councils and prominent organizations about this opportunity. Working to get this included in class councils. The ACM picnic on Saturday was good, they talked to the SDS and SEAS reps about their observations. We also did the Restoration Ball for the Jefferson Society for the Haven.

#### IV. **SUBCOMMITTEE & WORKING GROUP REPORTS**

- A. Policies and Procedures Committee
  - 1. Mary Holland: We are working on bylaw updates for the 10/20 voting day. We are working D&R to have some survey-based evidence to support these.
- B. Faculty Advisory Committee
  - 1. Laura: Simran met last week to set up opportunities for faculty to get involved in Honor.
- C. Community Relations and Diversity Advisory Committee
  - 1. Ben: We met on Friday to finalize our application (due October 6). We started out outreach over the weekend: we have an email going out to all CIOs soon. CRDAC members are reaching out to a variety of student organizations (MSC, etc.) and newsletters. We also have some contacts to reach out to student athletes.
- D. Data and Research Committee
  - 1. Max (SO, Committee-Co Chair): Hang has decided to step down as a Representative for the time being. No major updates. We are working on our panelist case study for later this semester, and working with P&P to organize exit surveys for their upcoming proposal. We continue to monitor the new and improved transparency portal.
- E. Ad-hoc Subcommittee on Sanctions
  - 1. Will: We met on Friday. We are on the same page for some of our pre-sanctioning process. Hopefully on 10/06 we will be able to talk more broadly about the role for CC, and changes to the sanctioning process SWG is considering. We have talked about the balance of the CC role, and devoting time to brainstorming new sanctions in the gap, but also sanctions that are less severe than most of the current sanctions.

V. **REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS**

- A. Laura: Hang has stepped down from the Committee for personal reasons. We will miss her, and she has given great service to Honor as an Advisor for two years and representative. I will be working with her and Vivian and the GSAS Council to fill her seat.
- B. Ayda: I have a few Law School updates. We finished our SO interviews this week, and had a dinner with ten of our section representatives. Cassidy and I told them about what Honor does, and how they're role is crucial to Honor. We met with Dean Gilbert to discuss some areas we wanted to see improved on our MOU, and wanted to bring some of his responses to everyone's attention. The first issue: the potential for law school reps to take over the Honor presentation at the Law School orientation and scroll signing. He wants a detailed proposal about the logistics. Secondly, we discussed amending the MOU so that Honor will proceed first in cases. The Deans want to keep this flexible; when cases involving law students arise, the professional standards committee and Honor Committee would sit down to discuss who should handle the case. We also asked him if we could do an annual presentation to Law School faculty. He said the faculty are very aware of the system, so he proposed an annual written communication to faculty.

VI. **OLD BUSINESS**

- A. None.

VII. **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Gathering reporter feedback about the case process/ their experience
  - 1. Laura: There's a general theme that reporters think certain positive and negative things about the case process. I was wondering if people had specific topics they'd want faculty in particular to discuss.
  - 2. Seamus: A start would be more intentional in the way we collect SO feedback. We have the post Hearing conference, but that's a very Hearing-focused case. We could sit down with each of them to address the rest of the case process. The only problem is that would happen after the case is closed, but that could be more effective than sending a form.
  - 3. Alex: The reporter and student filling out the form has few responses. A better way may be the AC meeting with the reporter once a case closes or IR PS ends, etc. Discuss the outcome, process, etc. From the prospective of the Reporter.
- B. Creation of a monthly opt-in Honor "newsletter"
  - 1. Laura: This could include our co-spos, By-Law updates, anonymous case details. Wanted to share this idea with you all.
  - 2. Thomas: Reminded him of the "Honorable Mention", where people can nominate their peers for honorable actions. We haven't gotten a submission in a long time, but this could help promote it.
  - 3. Will: I love the "Honorable Mention". Even beyond the newsletter, we could think about what incentives we could put behind that. This could be a really cool way to recognize these. We could also send out XYZ case studies, which would add to our transparency. This could be really effective as an opt in, but also required/strongly encouraged for the SO pool so they can always be on top of this sort of thing.

4. Mary Holland: For Honor Week last year, we had the art competition. This could be another opportunity to publicize those (and other positive ones).
5. Ian: We had something similar at my undergrad, and we would send it out to the faculty too. The buy in from faculty was a lot higher after these were sent out. These also went to students.
6. Laura: It sounds like there is broad support. I will give you all a draft of the first one before sending it out.

C. Engagement with students in one-year programs

1. Laura: Recalls last week's conversation about LLM students. There are also more student groups in one-year programs, as well as fourth years who may want to be involved. I want to find a way to include this as much as possible.
2. Ian: I would really like to have a standalone graduate affairs subcommittee, which could be focused on outreach and may not require a lot of training.
3. Ben: CRDAC can also be involved. My vision is that at the end of the semester, we will have feedback from people we recruit, especially from graduate students. I will email GSAC to get our application added to their list serv.
4. Ayda: In regards to LLMs, could we organize an event for LLMs to see if they have interest? Or maybe an interest survey? I hear that many of them are very busy, especially if they are international students. They are very time constrained, so assessing their interest is a good idea.
5. Laura: We largely decided to not accept SO applications for people in their last year here. I wanted to see if anyone has ideas to bring them into Honor in other ways?
6. Will: The people giving case processing feedback are usually people who have interacted with the system. I do think they could be on CRDAC, etc. That could be on a case-by-case basis.
7. Mary Holland: That could be a great opportunity for P&P, especially if we bring in people with fresh eyes.
8. Will: It can also be Pool specific; some Educators educate their heart out in the spring of their fourth year. I don't think it was a waste at all for them to be trained. With Educators it could work better.

D. "Guest speaker" session at Committee meetings (by nomination or invitation)

1. Laura: We could invite someone to speak to us for five minutes right before or after public comment. Could be a new CIO, faculty member, etc. Do people have thoughts on this?
2. Will: I do really like the idea. I am concerned it could diminish what is a really cool part of the meetings, the public comment period. We could invite them to talk at that part and keep everything mixed in.
3. Laura: This would be adjacent to public comment, not in place of it.
4. Alex: One thing we used to do was request co-sponsorship recipients to attend. We could invite those people too.
5. Thomas: I can start to include a request in emails.
6. Will: My thought is why limit it? We can tie it to co-spos, but also other organizations and speakers, why not? It's super valuable to hear about how we're impacting the committee.

7. Sheryl: What do people feel about using this as an outlet for faculty? The ACM students mentioned how professors researching AI, etc.
8. Rachel: It could also be great to add this to our newsletter.
9. Laura: We could also do something where people sign up, or we send invitations. It could also be nomination based.
10. Will: I think all of this is good, but I do definitely think that particularly reps who have been involved in the case process, it meant a lot to hear from a representative asking me to attend an AI meeting. I wouldn't want to constrain it too much by requiring a nomination or something similar.
11. Seamus: I think it should happen sooner in the meeting is best. It's easier to engage with them before we meet. And I like the overlap with public comment.
12. Will: There's also a public comment at the end people can utilize. There even could be a way to tie it into agenda more specifically.

## VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

- A. None.

The Committee adjourned at 7:54 PM. We will meet at the Trial Room in Newcomb Hall at 7:00 PM next Sunday. We will not meet the week of Fall Break.