

HONOR COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA – SEPTEMBER 15, 2024

I. ROLL CALL (19/30 PRESENT)

Seamus Oliver	P
Alex Church	P
Carson Breus	P
Thomas Ackleson	A
Ian Novak	A
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	P
Clare Striegel	P
Cassidy Dufour	P
Ayda Mengistie	P
Mary Holland Mason	P
Margaret Zirwas	P
Hannah Lipinski	A
Penelope Molitz	P
Nile Liu	A
Lam-Phong Pham	A
Ben Makarechian	P
Vivian Mok	A
Hang Nguyen	P

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

A. None.

III. EXECUTIVE REPORTS

A. Laura Howard, Chair

1. Selections and Recruitment application closes tonight. As Committee reps, you're invited to conduct interviews, spreadsheet soon, week of the 23rd.
2. Had a mindfulness session with the Contemplative Sciences Center today; had our first All Hands meeting with support officers.

3. Met with Karsh student representative and the UJC Chair about potential collaboration for upcoming election.
 4. Attended the BOV meeting, met with Ben about CRDAC, meeting with SDS reps on Monday about “acting representatives” and electing representatives moving forward, meeting with the case study group for D&R this week.
 5. On a Cav Daily podcast about Honor, met with law school administration about our MOU.
 6. Presenting to new student affairs administrators on Friday about SSG and why it’s important.
- B. Seamus Oliver, Vice Chair for Investigations
1. There are six active investigations.
- C. Alex Church, Vice Chair for Hearings
1. Two cases in Hearing selection.
- D. Carson Breus, Vice Chair for Sanctions
1. At least one IR PS in next couple of weeks.
- E. Will Hancock, Vice Chair for the Undergraduate Community
1. Educators have been assigned per school, should reach out Friday by the latest.
 2. First dorm talk on Friday.
 3. Starting planning on big projects: CIO Weekend, International Student Days, Honor Week. Starting all around now, frameworks, etc. If you have ideas for events or want to get more involved, let me know.
 4. SO Welcome Dinner, September 30th, 6:30-8:30. Come meet new SOs!
- F. Ian Novak, Vice Chair for the Graduate Community
1. None.
- G. Thomas Ackleson, Vice Chair for Operations
1. None.

IV. **SUBCOMMITTEE & WORKING GROUP REPORTS**

- A. Policies and Procedures Committee
1. Mary Holland: Had another meeting Friday, will have some policy points at the Committee level in the coming weeks.
- B. Faculty Advisory Committee
1. Simran: no major updates, talk about initiatives later in meeting.
- C. Community Relations and Diversity Advisory Committee
1. Ben: Discussed process for recruiting student leaders to CRDAC, moving from cold outreach to broader approach, get in touch with folks in CIOs, Greek life, to try to mitigate how our bias plays into the selection process. Wants to review language for that with CRDAC members, meeting this week.
- D. Data and Research Committee
1. Hang: Added two DS reps to case study team. Temporarily put SafeGrounds project on hold due to IT issue. Also starting a new survey project, new graduate student survey because graduate students are not well-represented in SO pool.
- E. Ad-hoc Subcommittee on Sanctions
1. Will: Welcomed new member, spent half the time talking about CC proposal, had first discussion on new sanctions, looked at disciplinary probation. Have a few ideas

we will continue to discuss, more policy things at the Committee level in the next couple of weeks.

V. **REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS**

- A. Penelope (ED): Hannah and I are going to meet with Education School Student Council, trying to work with them on “meeting the majors” event to promote talking across majors and understanding about Honor. Working on an event for primarily athletes because they have been disproportionately accused students and want to restore their trust with Honor, especially because ED has high student-athlete proportion.
- B. Laura (CLAS): Emailed Dean from FAC project, meeting to come.

VI. **OLD BUSINESS**

- A. None.

VII. **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Discuss FAC’s initiatives for this year (AI Lunch & Learns, Faculty Focus Groups, Dean Pavillion Series)
 - 1. Simran: One of the ideas FAC had was AI Lunch and Learns, to be comprised of faculty on the research side and ethical implications side. Have a panel of faculty from COMM, DS, SEAS, assembling audience from there. To open discourse on AI and faculty interaction with Honor.
 - 2. Simran: Focus groups on reporting hesitancy and sanctioning. These groups would be composed of a variety of faculty and TAs, as well as new faculty.
 - 3. Simran: Dean Pavillion Series, interact with deans across the different schools and interact with faculty to build soft relationships. Reached out to Dean Jenkins (COMM) and will be hosting at her pavilion, will work on logistics at next FAC meeting. Open to suggestions and feedback!
 - 4. Carson: For focus groups, do you want professors that have gone through the honor process?
 - 5. Simran: Haven’t considered differentiating between the two, looking at depts that are less engaged with honor.
 - 6. Carson: Would be interesting to compare different perspectives.
 - 7. Laura: Not necessarily in a group together, but could meet with them individually.
 - 8. Will: In a super cool way, meshing with how we think about sanctions, would be good to see what they think for sanctions, but also could give them sanctions we’re considering to see what they think.
 - 9. Laura: Any recommendations for AI lunch and learns?
 - 10. Will: Experts are good, but a lot of professors are pretty niche in certain things that could be tangential to a lunch and learn. Good place to start could be some folks at the library who work in information ethics and AI ethics.
 - 11. Laura: There are a couple AI in the law experts in the law school, could be an interesting angle.
 - 12. Laura: The way they were thinking about the focus groups would be “Why are you hesitant to report?” “What does your dept think?” Other thoughts?

13. Hang: I teach my own class and used to TA, after both experiences I really wonder, because teaching your own class takes a lot of time, I can see that there is no incentive to report because it causes the reporter a significant chunk of time to go through the case process while there are other things to do. It's not a disregard or negative feeling, more an inconvenience.
14. Carson: Could this be solved with the fact that they can wait until the summer or a less busy time to report?
15. Hang: I talked to TAs when they had suspected cases, little to no knowledge on statute of limitations, big hesitancy on reporting students who are about to graduate, easier to resolve in the background
16. Laura: The IR is so short now that educating on that could be helpful
17. Simran: Would be valuable to add TAs of high-volume courses
18. Laura: What do you think would be incentives for them to come to these events?
19. Hang: Depends who you are trying to target, adding another meeting to their schedule might not be an option they would like to participate in. Grad students tend to go for food/free stuff. With faculty, harder to predict. Depends a lot on what kind of faculty they are. Teaching vs research faculty, teaching faculty will care a lot more about Honor because it more directly impacts their work
20. Andrew: As someone who was a TA for a CS class, felt like if I was a TA and saw something that was fishy, felt like trying to report would be going over my boss, whereas going to the professor, generally adding the additional task of reporting is just too much. Incentivizing reporting is probably not the best idea, just because it leads to bad consequences.
21. Laura: I meant incentivizing intending the focus groups, but thank you for catching me on that.
22. Carson: For IR PSs, a lot is very asynchronous, P&P should look at more asynchronous options for investigations
23. Simran: Would having a Zoom faculty focus group be effective/more convenient?
24. Laura: Maybe having an asynchronous form
25. Hang: A lot of TAs don't know what they need to do when they suspect someone has violated the Honor code, there was a lot of confusion about what evidence they need to get to report, at the very beginning of the process. That is a big problem that needs to be solved before the case even starts.
26. Carson: Are there any standardized TA trainings? Is it dept based?
27. Hang: They have a TA orientation for all new TAs, there's also a session for international students, about how to resolve situations in the classroom, nothing on Honor. Honor is a problem down the line from the orientation perspective, but not an immediate concern.
28. Ben: I'm a grader for a Batten class, had an orientation on grading, some Honor information could fit in there, especially for grad students who are less familiar with Honor.
29. Will: On the point of "what evidence do you need" 1) investigators are experienced, around AI a professor may not know how to assess but investigators are trained for this, be clear that the burden is on investigators not them, and 2) if there is a repeat

offender, Honor knows if someone is a repeat offender whereas individual faculty might not know. There are real tangible benefits for reporting

30. Laura: Will and Ian are presenting at graduate resource fair/convocation in October.

31. Will: It's pretty chill, did this last year, like an activities fair but for graduate students. Also been invited to a graduate student class who are getting ready to teach English to undergrads in the spring. Talking about philosophy and the transition to multi-sanction, but information today is useful. Was an English creative writing professor, so will tailor to those students.

B. Discuss an upcoming D&R survey about graduate students, to be completed by our final Committee meeting of the semester

1. Laura: Alluded to this in earlier update, want to complete so results can be reported by December meeting.

2. Max: Want to make sure we have all the paperwork done when we're dealing with surveys, because it's experimenting with actual people. Talking to IRB about that. The other things we're doing is a case study, which is also going forward, at a similar stage right now.

3. Hang: We're doing it because the Honor Committee SOs and Reps are largely undergrad, the POV of grad students who live very different lives is sometimes overlooked. Interested in sub-populations such as TAs, international grad students who have to deal with challenges due to language and new Honor system. Motivator behind this project, project still in the planning stages. To meet the December deadline, at least two weeks has to be writing the report, data analysis has to be done by the end of November, a lot of time on data cleaning and modeling. This means data needs to be in by the end of October, have to finish planning everything by the last week of September, first week of October. Because there are a lot of moving parts, have to move quickly. Stratified sampling scheme for different types of grad students.

4. Mary Holland: For survey, are you asking about Honor knowledge, how can Honor support them? What kinds of questions?

5. Hang: Up to you guys a little bit more, want to identify research gap that needs to be filled to tailor survey questions.

6. Max: Big part of the gap in knowledge is statute of limitations and reporting process, would be useful to get a feel for that. On the feeling towards Honor side, will be useful, especially on the international student side.

7. Laura: I wonder if we should do something about "which of these events would you attend?" "What would you like to know about Honor?" Could be good for Honor week, informing what we do moving forward.

C. Discuss "Get out the Vote" and voter registration initiatives

1. Laura: Requires a little bit of preamble. We get our power from the BOV, so we can't endorse candidates or be partisan in any way. Our whole goal is to uphold the Community of Trust and the goal of UVA is to create informed citizen leaders. Trying to figure out a way to have some sort of presence in the Election. Could do things on election day such as donuts for people voting.

2. Carson: Are there any concerns about directly incentivizing people to vote?

3. Laura: Wouldn't be incentivizing people to vote, more celebrating the day

4. Will: Might not be bad incentivizing people to vote, wouldn't be against our delegation and our principles. Our goal shouldn't be on incentivizing voting, but if that's a side benefit, that's in line with our mission
5. Laura: Two quick things to add. 1) Could just be a tab on election day, Bodo's, etc. 2) In terms of the apolitical nature of Honor, we probably should refrain in this meeting to speaking your political views. In your own personal lives do as you wish
6. Seamus: Outside of Honor, I have done voter registration work. You cannot apply direct incentives for voting. Have to give donuts even to people that haven't voted, incentivizing voting is against federal law.
7. Mary Holland: UVA group called "Hoos Vote", they are apolitical, have a Liaison Subcommittee at UVA, could be good for a co-sponsorship or to work with.
8. Hang: Are we working with any orgs?
9. Laura: Have not partnered with anyone, have talked to Harper (Chair of UJC) about this.
10. Max: Is there any precedent from previous elections?
11. Laura: The 2020 election, I haven't spoken to anyone from that committee, haven't done anything for the midterms, didn't do much in 2016.
12. Will: If we do anything, celebration of the day, the reason why Honor would do it needs to be put out there. The link is not super obvious to everyone, having some statement about re-emphasizing that it is related to Honor's mission.
13. Evan: As far as I can remember we've never done anything in the 9 years I've been here but I might be forgetting!
14. Seamus: If an organization is interested in doing voter registration and requests a co-sponsorship, I don't see that as posing an issue. A little wary about Honor doing something directly.
15. Carson: Would be okay with a tab or co-sponsorship, but nothing super direct.
16. Will: Would agree, but we should do something of that level. As long as we keep it general, good opportunity to show that we don't just do cheating in classrooms, we have this purpose in the community.
17. Seamus: Election Day is a holiday for UVA students, could be good to do something.
18. Laura: Feel free to talk later, not a huge time crunch. We could also create a list of civil conversation norms, ways to have a productive conversation. Could be another way to do something.
19. Will: I don't love the idea. So many groups on-grounds that do that sort of thing, wouldn't be that much of a value add. Don't know if it will stick, might detract from what else we're doing.
20. Laura: Thank you Will for pushing back. On the off-chance an idea sticks, I'd rather have it out there.

D. Introduce and discuss "voting days" for Committee

1. Laura: New initiative. Days if there's a big Bylaw package so we can only have to hit quorum on certain days, helpful to have high-pressure days that you need to be there. Tentative schedule:
 - a) October 20th
 - b) December 1st

- c) January 26th (maybe)
- d) March 2nd
- 2. Carson: Could you update calendar invites with that information?
- 3. Laura: Yes
- 4. Ben: Do you plan on publicizing those days, so people in the community could attend for public comment and to see bylaw changes?
- 5. Laura: That's a great idea
- 6. Will: Would rather have less than more, but do you think there might be a problem of too much policy in one meeting? Could have a slightly longer meeting, but multiple committees pushing towards these days might not be best
- 7. Laura: Voting days don't have to be the days we debate the concept, we could debate one meeting and vote on a different meeting. We can still vote on Bylaws on in-betweens, but those days we want to have 30/30.
- 8. Seamus: Do the benefits of having the voting days creates people not going to other meetings?
- 9. Laura: Valid concern. Believe in our reps and believe that they will come, will raise attendance on days we are going to vote, will make it clear that we're having important discussions other days.
- 10. Laura: I'll send that out in the email, make sure to block off your calendar for those days.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

- A. None.

Meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m. The Honor Committee will meet next on Sunday, September 22 at 7:00 p.m. in the Trial Room.