

ROGERS STATE UNIVERSITY
MINUTES OF MEETING
 Honors Program Committee

Date: 10-31-11

Chairperson: Jim Ford

Place: BH 103 (the Honors Program Lounge)

Time Beginning: Noon

Time Adjourning: 12:35 p.m.

Members Present: Larry Brewer, Emily Dial-Driver, Jim Ford, Tonni Harrold, Candice Nivison (representing Misty Smith), Carolyn Taylor

Members Absent: D. Dajayanbaev, Sharon Fernlund, Dana Gray, Julie Rampey

Guests Present: Kelsey Romig (Honors Student President), Valorie Vernon (Honors Assistant Director)

Topic	Discussion	Action
Call to Order		Noon
Approval of Minutes		No Minutes; first meeting of year
Reports & Announcements		
1	Update on Honors Program: 68 students, 8 Fall Honors Courses, past accomplishments including London-Paris Studies-at-Large trip in Summer 2011	
2	Program Governance: Honors Director, Assistant Director, Program Committee (faculty and staff), Program Council (elected students)	
New Business		
1	Revisions to Service-Learning (see following page for details)	None required
2	Proposal for Honors Minor	Moved by EDD; unanimously approved
Next Meeting	Spring 2012: TBD	

Project-Based Service-Learning

The Plan:

Community service requirement reduced to 5 hours per semester.

Each junior will propose a service-learning project designed for a team of 3-6 people. Once approved, a summary of all projects will be distributed to all Honors students. Each student will lead their project team as a senior, coordinating their efforts for a full year. Projects should be specific, and targeted at a specific problem, issue, or agency.

Each project should involve 35-40 hours of service work throughout the term of the project. At the conclusion of the project every member of the team will complete a brief evaluation of the project, their own performance, the performance of the team leader, and the participation of each other team member. The team leader will complete a fuller report on the project for inclusion in their capstone portfolio. In order to be included, all projects should be completed by March 31 of that year unless otherwise approved by the Director.

Goals:

1. True service-learning: each student will choose (or design) a project that is personally meaningful as well as educationally sound. Sustained service is more beneficial for the organization as well as for the student.
2. Team-building: each student will be working with a small team of students from a variety of backgrounds and majors. This should improve mentoring and program cohesion as well as providing valuable experience at both participating in and leading a team.
3. Problem-solving: each team has a specific project designed to address a specific problem. Understanding the need and analyzing possible responses is a crucial part of the process.