Honors Program Structure at Peer and Benchmark Institutions

UHM Peer Institutions:

Colorado State University—Fort Collins

In 1975, the Faculty Council first approved the University Honors Program to be effective Spring Quarter of that academic year. The Faculty Honors Council (FHC) is comprised of ten voting members: one from each of the eight colleges, one from the libraries, and a student representative from the Honors Student Association. Ex officio members include the Honors Program Director and Assistant Director. The FHC serves as the advisory board to the Honors Program Director and participate in the creating academic and administrative policies for the University Honors Program. FHC members also serve as liaisons between the University Honors Program and their respective College Curriculum Committees, administrators and other faculty.

Mississippi State University—Starkville

The University Honors program at MSU, initially established in 1968, evolved into the Shackouls Honors College after a generous endowment in 2006. The University Honors Council, consisting of 18 elected Honors students, serves as the governing body for the Honors College. Members of the Honors Council serve on one of five standing committees: Activities, Administration, Communication, Recruitment or Finance.

Oregon State University—Corvallis

The OSU Honors College was established in 1955 by the Oregon State Board of Education. The chief administrator of the Honors College is the Dean. The Board of Regents serves as an external advisory group comprised of OSU alumni and friends of the Honors College. Board members work with the Honors College Dean, staff and development officer by providing input and advice on academic matters, as well as, promoting the sustainability of the program by reaching out to donors and providing advice on fundraising.

University of Arizona—Tuscon

The University of Arizona Honors College was established in 1962. The Honors College receives counsel from three advisory groups that provide input, advice and oversight. The Honors College Board represents the University’s broad community of scholars and supporters, including alumni, parents and friends of the college. The Honors Counselor Liaison Board consists of high school counselors and staff from across the state of Arizona who works to strengthen the relationships between high school counselors and the Honors College. The Honors Student Council serves as the main leadership group for the UA Honors College and run five committees, including Public Relations and Big Events, Education and Advocacy, Internal Relations, Philanthropy and Field Trips.

University of Illinois—Chicago

The UIC Honors College first approved its bylaws in November 1983. The chief administrator for the Honors College is the Dean. The Honors Council, comprised of 19 or 21 voting members from the Honors College faculty, a non-voting student member of the Honors
College, and, ex officio, the Dean, administrative Honors College staff designated by the Dean and a representative of the Office of Academic Affairs, serves as the Executive Committee of the Honors College. The Educational Policy Committee, consisting of five faculty members, the Associate Dean of the Honors College and another Honors College staff member designated by the Dean, provide input and recommendations to the Dean regarding the academic program. The Diversity Committee, composed of eight members from within the Honors College and a member from the Center for Cultural Understanding and Social Change, makes recommendations to the Dean regarding diversity as related to the programs, policies and procedures of the Honors College.

University of Kentucky—Lexington
The head administrator for the University of Kentucky Honors Program is the Program Director. The Honors Program Student Council, consisting of students within the Honors Program, serves in an advisory capacity to the Director and provides a broad range of social and community service opportunities to students in the program. Additionally, the Honors Program is partnered with the Office of the Provost and The Chellgren Center for Undergraduate Excellence.

University of New Mexico—Albuquerque
The UNM Honors Program, incepted in 1957, transitioned to an Honors College in Fall 2013. The Honors College Advisory Board is a group of alumni and friends of the College who provide guidance and support to program. The Honors Student Association, consisting of student members of the Honors College, serves as the liaison between students, faculty and administration in the Honors College. The Honors Program Annual Report provides more information on membership and governance of the program.

University of South Florida—Tampa
The chief administrators of the Honors College at University of South Florida are the Dean and the Associate Dean. The Honors College Student Council, established in 1987, liaises between students and the administration of the USF Honors College.

University of Utah—Salt Lake City
The University of Utah Honors College was established in 1962. The head administration for the Honors College consists of the Dean, Associate Dean and Assistant Dean. The Honors Policy Board develops policy for both Departmental and the Honors College Programs, approves curriculum the College, and selects candidates for promotion to lecturer rank. The Honors Student Advisory Committee participates in governance of the Honors College by electing a representative to the Honors Policy Board and by reviewing faculty for lecturer appointments in the Honors College.

UHM Benchmark Institutions:

University of California—Davis
The UC Davis Honors Program’s chief administrator is the Program Director. Further information regarding governance of the program and organizational structure was not provided.

University of California—Irvine
The UC Irvine Honors Program was established in 1988. The Program Director and Associate Director are the head administrators of the program. The Campuswide Honors Student Council serves as the representative student leadership for the Honors Program.

University of California—San Diego
UCSD is comprised of six colleges, each of which has their own Honors Program and leadership. For instance, the Eleanor Roosevelt College at UCSD was established in 1988 and is led by its own provost, dean of student affairs, Resident Dean, Dean of Academic Advising and Director of the Making of a Modern World Program, as evidenced by their organizational chart.

University of Colorado—Boulder
The Honors Program at UC Boulder was established in 1931. The primary leadership of the Honors Program consists of the Program Director and Associate Director. Further information regarding governance of the program and organizational structure was not provided.

University of Iowa—Iowa City
The Honors Program at University of Iowa was established in 1958. The Honors Program currently has two advisory bodies: the Honors Steering Committee and the Honors Student Advisory Committee. Members of the Steering Committee include the Honors Director, Associate Director, faculty representatives from all five of the degree-granting undergraduate colleges and a student representative from the Honors Program. Members of the Student Advisory Committee are appointed by the Honors Director and provide input and advice to the Director. The Program is currently in the process of forming the Honors Advisory Board, which will consist of Program alumni and friends of the Program. The Board will also include, as ex officio members, the Honors Director, Associate Director, Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education and a representative from the Belin-Bank International Center.

University of North Carolina—Chapel Hill
The UNC Honors Program is housed in the James M. Johnston Center for Undergraduate Excellence. The Honors Student Executive Board serves as one of the advisory boards and consists of an executive council including two co-presidents and co-chairs for each HSEB committee (Academic, Alumni and Admissions, Service). An External Advisory Board, comprised of alumni and friends of the Program, also provide input and advice to the Honors Program leadership.

University of Pittsburgh—Pittsburgh
The University of Pittsburgh Honors College was established by the Board of Trustees in 1986. The Honors College leadership receives input and advice from three advisory groups: Kenneth P. Dietrich School of Arts & Sciences Advisory Board, Faculty Advisory Committee, and Student Advisory Board.

University of Tennessee—Knoxville
The Chancellor’s Honors Program at the University of Tennessee was founded in 1985. The University Honors Committee, formed by the Provost, provides input and advice on issues concerning honors education across the University and recommends policy changes to the Provost and Chancellor. The committee is chaired by the Honors Program Director and includes members from each of the nine undergraduate colleges, a representative from University housing and a student representative from the Honors Program.

University of Washington—Seattle
The University Honors Program at UW is housed within Undergraduate Academic Affairs. The chief administrators of the program are the Program Director and Associate Director. The UW Honors Council consists of a small group of program faculty, staff and appointed students who meet to assess the quality of the program and advise the Director on issues regarding program policies or changes in curriculum and program structure.