University Committee on Honors Programs (2018-2019)

Report submitted by Eric Torng, Engineering UCHP representative and Chair of UCHP 2018-2019

Programmatic Changes

- UCHP discussed the issue of programs (English, Psychology, History, in the past Political Science) that have extra requirements for their Honors College students. While UCHP liked many of these programs, UCHP recommended that MSU should not allow any program to impose extra requirements in order to graduate from the Honors College. Please refer to the minutes of the February 8, 2019 meeting for more details about this issue.
- UCHP supported a proposal from the Honors College to require that students must have completed at least one of their eight honors experiences by the end of the fall semester of their second year at MSU. The rationale is that students who complete none of their honors experiences by this time may be using Honors College membership to get priority enrollment for their third year courses.
- UCHP does now have an official seat with voice on UCUE.

Dean’s Review

- This year was supposed to be the year for the Dean’s 5 year review. Unfortunately, UCHP was not notified of this review by Academic Human Resources until mid-March. As a result, UCHP decided it would prepare materials for the review but leave the full implementation of the review to next academic year’s UCHP. We strongly suggest that in future years, UCHP be informed about the Dean’s review in the first meeting of the academic year.

New Connections

- The Honors College is working closely with the MSU Museum and its new director, Mark Auslander. There are potential opportunities for students, particularly with Science on a Sphere.
- The Honors College is exploring new collaborations with the MSU Libraries. One specific new collaboration is that Elizabeth Webster has been designated the official MSU Libraries liaison to the Honors College.
Interaction with Honors College Dean’s Advisory Council (HCDAC)

- We continued our collaboration with HCDAC. Specifically, HCDAC students were able to attend every UCHP meeting this year. This was especially helpful since the elected UCHP members were not able to attend any meetings this year.

Other Items

- UCHP does wish to have its meetings scheduled from 3:30-5:00 on Fridays. This information needs to be added to the UCHP description so that all faculty nominated by their colleges are aware of this meeting time.