1. The Committee discussed the new Campus Application Process (CA) for the Honors College. Changes include the elimination of a paper application in favor of a process similar to that by which incoming freshmen are admitted. The top 10% of students, by college, will now be considered following their first semester. Their academic program will be examined for academic rigor, the use of Honors Options or Honors sections, and evidence of an Honors College-like experience. From this list, students will be invited to become members of the Honors College.

The Committee also discussed improving the application and evaluation process for the Gillette/Stein scholarships for students completing the research for the senior thesis. Suggestions included expanding of the application process, mirroring that of a formal funding request, ways that faculty could become more involved in the publicizing of the awards, and a possible increase of the award. The dollar amount of the award is tied to endowment funds, so it is not simply a matter of deciding to offer larger awards. The criteria by which students are selected and increasing the size of the selection committee was also discussed. It was noted that currently, the Gillette Fellowship is $2200 and the Stein Fellowship is $2500. An additional $500 can be accessed by the student through the Honors College Research Fund.

The timetable for Honors Research Seminars and a report on the status of the college given by the Dean of the Honors College were also items of discussion.

2. An option for Honors College members to participate in Service Learning as part of their Honors College curriculum has been discussed. A pilot program will begin in Fall 2009 with a volunteer group of students. Students will not receive credit, but there will be a way to indicate program participation on their Academic Progress Plan (APP). It is being proposed that the Fall 2010 class be the first class where a junior year service project be embedded in (and therefore a requirement of) the Honors experience. Other improvements to the Honors College have been suggested, including better coordination between staff and faculty advisers, and revising the process for the placement of Professorial Assistants. Means for increasing faculty engagement with the Honors College were also proposed.

3. The Committee continues to face the challenge of working across academic disciplines.

4. No suggestions at this time.