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HONORS

FEBRUARY 19, 1976
Volume 1
Number 1

LIMITED COLLECTOR'S EDITION

NEWS

HONORS NEWSLETTER CREATED

In order to improve communications between the Honors Student Senate, the Honors administration and students, a newsletter has been created. In case you are curious, it is the one you are holding. The hopes behind this newsletter are that by providing more information on activities and changes in Honors, students will take a greater interest in the Program.

The continuation of this newsletter depends upon the interest it stirs up and the hate mail its editor receives. In future issues it is hoped that there will be several members on the staff, who will bring Honors students both a creative and informative newsletter. But for now you will just have to suffer. Any opinions found in this issue are necessarily those of the Honors Student Senate, the administration or anyone else for that matter.

CONSTRUCTION OF LOUNGE TO BEGIN

Construction of an Honors student lounge is scheduled to begin Spring quarter. The lounge will be located behind the Honors office.

The Honors lounge will be multipurposed. It will serve as a study area, meeting place and just somewhere to come and socialize with other Honors students and staff. Student input will be sought and needed as to how the lounge should be administered. There has been much favorable response to the lounge, but more ideas are needed.

The lounge is scheduled for completion in June, and if all goes well it will be in full use by fall quarter. Of course graduating seniors will conclude their days in Honors without such a lounge, but no one will object if they stopped in for a visit sometimes.

NOMINATIONS FOR 1975-76 DISTINGUISHED TEACHERS' AWARD SOUGHT

If you had a fantastic teacher fall or winter quater, this information may be for you. The Alumni Association is sponsoring a "Distinguished Teachers' Award" for two or more teachers. Students are urged to nominate instructors they believe have done excellant in the class room. The most helpful nominations are those that include specific descriptions of the nominee's qualities and techniques as the appear in demonstrating, communicating, and stimulating learning. The awards include a \$500 stipend as well as a name on a plaque in the campus club, not to mention the honor itself. Nominations can be picked up in room 203 Johnston Hall and are due by March 1, 1976. The awards will be presented at the annual CLA-University College Alumni Association meeting on Saturday, May 1.

HONORS STUDENT SENATE OPPORTUNITIES

The Honors Student Senate is a relatively new organization that functions as the intermediary between the Honors administration and students.

Through the Senate, Honors students are able to suggest new Honors courses and Honors requirement alternatives, serve on the Division's Honors Council, the Honors Student Senate Policy Board and participate in a number of programs such as one to one and course evaluation.

The Senate is free to propose new programs and to initiate reforms, so the potential of student input through the Senate in improving Honors requirements is great. The Honors Student Senate also sponsors several social and cultural events which provide the chance to meet fellow students in the Honors Division.

I hope that you will take advantage of the many opportunities offered through the Honors Student Senate, and I look forward to seeing all of you soon.

Rita McCormick
President, Honors Student Senate

COMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY 25: Honors Student Senate Meeting, 3:15 p.m. 119 Elliot Hall. Topic: Discussion with Honors staff on policy. If you have any questions at all about Honors be sure to be at this meeting. Also committee sign ups.

MARCH 12: Long awaited last day of class.
MARCH 29: The hardest day of spring quarter.

APRIL 5: Senate meeting, 3:15 p.m. Elliot 119. Topic: Nominations for offices.

APRIL 26: Senate meeting, 3:15 p.m. Elliot 119. Topic: Elections of officers for '76-'77.

MAY 17: Senate meeting, 3:15 p.m. Elliot 119. Topic: To be planned.

Keep watch for other special events not listed here. There are several activities in the planning stages for Spring quarter.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Be sure you're right, then go ahead."

David Crockett
1786-1836

NEW CONSTITUTION APPROVED

A new constitution, based upon the hope for greater Honors student involvement, has been approved by the Honors Student Senate.

The new constitution calls for a minimum of three Senate meetings per quarter, elections of officers during the spring, and a new policy board to replace the policy committee.

There are also some changes in eligibility for membership in the Senate. According to Article 1, Section 1, "Any College of Liberal Arts student enrolled in the upper or lower division Honors Program shall be eligible for membership in the Honors Student Senate."

In order to become a voting member an Honors student must attend at least three regular Senate meetings, or obtain twenty-five signatures of Honors students endorsing his/her voting qualifications on a Honors Student Membership petition. If the latter option becomes widely used, it will mean that some Senate members will have a constituency.

The constitution also calls for the creation of a policy board. The policy board will consist of three members from each undergraduate level, with the Honors Student Senate President serving in an advisory role, and one administrative adviser from the program. The Policy Board will be responsible for seeking input into the program, assist in the selection of colloquiums and recommend changes in the program when needed. Members of the policy board will be elected by the Honors Student Senate in the spring. Freshman members will be selected through an interview process in the fall. Success of the new constitution depends on greater involvement from Honors students.

Most of the new constitution will not take effect until Spring quarter, but Honors students interested in joining the Senate should come to the February 25 meeting.

THOUGHTS ON STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

From deep within these walls of knowledge comes the cry, "get involved" and the response which returns is "No!". Are those who answer no lazy? Are they apathetic? The funny thing is, students are not apathetic about their education, if they were we would never hear anyone complain about a poor course, a not so good instructor or course closures.

If students were lazy, they would not be in college. One answer or explanation for a lack of involvement by students in academic affairs is that students are too busy getting an education to be concerned about the way it is given. Some choose not to get involved because of a belief that it doesn't matter how much they do, the "system" is just too big. Yet if this is the case, then what would be needed is a big group to counter the big problems. This is not radical talk, no revolutionary group is being suggested. But rather a greater cooperation among students, in this case Honors students.

Another aspect of involvement is the differences of opinion among students as to what needs to be done. Within Honors, this aspect deserves some discussion. Where some students see a need for input others do not. But input should be given into the Program even when there are no pressing problems. It is always possible that a situation will arise when student advice will be needed, there should be some concerned students the administration can turn to. Students should never be contented neither. Contentment is one form of stagnation.

Ideas should always be sought and given. In Honors there are many areas where student input is needed, colloquiums, seminars and course offerings just to name a few. Currently efforts are being made by the Honors Student Senate to get more input.

Those who have attended past Honors Student Senate meetings and left disenchanted should return. The main focus now in the Senate is to present Honors students with important, worthwhile and interesting meetings to come to.

Carmen Polvere
Publicity Coordinator, H.S.S.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

It has come to my attention that S-N credits count against my total of A credits. Could you please clear this up?

Confused

Dear Confused: Certainly. That's what editors are for. Here it is, right from the little brown booklet: "To graduate with Honors, the student must earn a total of 60 credits graded A. For cum laude: 1/2 of all upper division credits graded A, for magna cum laude 2/3 of upper division level credits graded A, and for summa cum laude 3/4 of upper division level credits graded A, plus an acceptable summa cum laude thesis." So let's say you have a total of 90 upper division credits, and you want to graduate cum laude, 1/2 of that must be A's, S grades could not be counted.

Dear Editor:

I am a freshman who was involved in the One to One Program, but I haven't seen my partner since fall. I was wondering if you could help?

Lost

Dear Lost: No problem. Just come to the next Honors Student Senate meeting on February 25. One of the social activities being planned is a One to One get together. The chairpersons of One to One will give you more details.

For anyone else who is part of the Ones, you might like to call your other half to see if all is well.

Dear Editor:

I think this newsletter is great!
Honest

Dear Honest: We try.

A SURVEY OF HONORS STUDENTS

Please answer the following questions to the best of your ability. Cut out the survey questions and return them to 115 Johnston Hall in the survey return box. Results may or may not be published, depending upon the course of events, and if anybody bothers to tabulate them.

1. I think Honors students are:
 - A. Intellectual. B. Elitist C. Snobs
 - D. A, B, and C

2. I am in Honors because:
 - A. I find Honors academically challenging
 - B. I didn't know better when I got here
 - C. I love colloquiums
 - D. I'm an intellectual elitist snob

3. How many hours do you spend in the library:
 - A. More than 15 but less than 20
 - B. Between 25 and 40 a week
 - C. Over 40 but less than 60 a week
 - D. I live in the library

4. I think colloquiums are:
 - A. Exciting, challenging and intellectually stimulating
 - B. Genuinely worthwhile experiences
 - C. Very benefecial to my education
 - D. Led by people of superior intelligence

5. I think the Honors Program could be improved by:
 - A. Offering more colloquiums and seminars
 - B. More students getting involved
 - C. Offering an Honors course on Marxism
 - D. Discontinuing Honors newsletters surveys

6. I think Honors courses are:
 - A. Too easy
 - B. An insult to my intelligence
 - C. Scarce
 - D. No different than regular classes

7. The Honors Office staff and counselors are:
 - A. A great bunch of people
 - B. Always helpful
 - C. Hardworking
 - D. A, B, and C

- I think surveys:
 - A. Are a waste
 - B. An insult to my intelligence
 - C. Should never be taken
 - D. Are a joke

NEWSLETTER NAMING CONTEST

Not only is Honors News a boring name for a newsletter, it also lacks the class usually associated with Honors. Therefore, the staff of this newsletter is sponsoring a newsletter name contest. On a piece of paper 4 x 6 (it must be 4 x 6 or it will not be considered) write your name and phone number along with the name you think this newsletter should be called.

Names will be judged by their creativity, their applicability and if it sounds okay. As a prize, a map of the Bahamas will be awarded. The map will be extremely helpful the next time you go to the Bahamas.

The losers will receive a free issue of the next Honors newsletter, whatever it is called.

All entries should be turned into the Honors office before March 12 and placed in the box for newsletter material.

IDEAS NEEDED FOR NEWSLETTER

Any thoughts or comments you have concerning this newsletter please feel free to make them. According to the new constitution the Honors Student Senate will put one out at least once a quarter. Although the budget is limited, there are several things a newsletter can do, among them, serve as a forum for student opinion and also creative writing. If you would like to participate on the staff of this newsletter, come into the Honors office, leave your name and phone number.

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