Honors Department Mid-Year Progress Report for Academic Year 2015-2016 April 2016

Mid-Year Progress

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Honors Program—Sustain Program Growth

Progress has been made contacting students; however, no information sessions were held. It is still a good goal, just not one completed.

Since the 2015-16 academic year is nearly over, this goal will be revisited at the start of the fall 2016 semester.

Honors Program—Sustain Program Rigor

While this will be an ongoing process, not a one-time action, the Honors Program Committee has developed uniform policies across all honors classes and contracts, including the requirement of a 500-word research paper.

To help ensure uniform rigor, especially regarding the required research paper, the Honors Program Committee agreed to establish ENGL C070 as a prerequisite for all honors courses. It is already a prerequisite for the Honors Program but has not applied to non-honors program students enrolling in an honors course. Because this change must be done by updating course outlines in CIC, this is not yet 100% complete.

72% Complete:

- ART C106H
- BIOL C105H, BIOL C111H, and C112H
- ENGL C102H, C221H, C222H, C235H, C245H
- HIST C103H, C104H, C131H, C132H

28% Incomplete:

- CHEM C113H
- MATH C121H
- MUSC C101H
- POLS C101H
- PSYC C101H

The prerequisites will be changed when these remaining courses come through CIC.

Phi Theta Kappa—Participate in College Completion Corps Efforts

We rocked it.

During the first two days of the fall semester, Phi Theta Kappa officers and students volunteered to welcome new students on our campus. In addition to providing assistance, we handed out "Got Commitment?" buttons and college completion pamphlets, provided a brief summary of the importance of completing college, and invited everyone to join the college Club Rush, thereby encouraging students to make connections with other students. At the Club Rush, we explained to students in more detail the importance of completing college and the benefits of joining both the Honors Program and PTK. A college completion form was handed out during the duration of Welcome Week and at the Club Rush. The students who completed this form were eligible to enter in a raffle to spin a wheel to earn prizes, as well as a raffle basket containing various goodies.

In the spring, Phi Theta Kappa officers and students worked with Student Government students, greeting students in the sculpture garden and in front of the library, handing out maps, helping students find classes

Furthermore, our chapter believed that it would be beneficial to serve as student ambassadors to our local high school. The intention was to encourage high school students to start thinking about their future and what they wanted to accomplish. We hoped to inspire them to stay in school, go to college, join Phi Theta Kappa and/or the Honors Program, and be successful. Phi Theta Kappa officers arranged with Burroughs High School to participate in the club rush in the fall and speak with high school classes in the spring.