HONORS STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
March 27, 2008, 6pm

I. Welcome and introductions

II. Approve minutes from 11/19/2007 meeting

III. Program Changes

- Advertising the college: This was brought up early in the meeting. Some examples of how the committee members found out about the Honors College:
  - when after hours at the bookstore in line to get $20 dollars for a book they paid $100
  - they saw a flyer
  - or when the website just happen to gear them in the wrong (but right) direction onto the Honors page.
  It will be the focus of the college to advertise and emphasize on the advantages of the Honors Program.
- PBCC Honors College is partnering up with four year universities.
- President’s Scholar Students will automatically be in the Honors College!! :)

Discussion:
Mission Statement: Ms. Burks introduced the mission statement of the Honors College at PBCC. “The mission of the Honors College at PBCC is to provide a supportive and challenging academic environment. Honors pursues an interactive learning experience where students develop a creative and comprehensive understanding of concepts in an interdisciplinary and global context. PBCC Honors students and faculty share a commitment to local, national, and international communities through activities that develop leadership skills, ethical awareness, and civic duty.” The students as a whole approved of the mission statement.

Eligibility Requirements: Student must fall in the 75th percentile of ACT, SAT; or 85th percentile of PBCC students for CPR; after the long debated GPA decision, the GPA retains at 3.5, which keeps the GPA low enough for students, but high enough to keep the Honors prestige.
- Recommendations were made that letters should be sent out to faculty members to keep an eye out for students who qualify.

Development of second honors track: Another hot topic was establishing the honors credits. The honors certificate is a route a student can take. Also, an honors diploma can be granted after a total of 21 credits (3 must be IDS2105 and no more than 6 hours in projects) + 3.5 GPA+ Community service or a point system. While students debated the project limits, the students realized that with the emphasis on honors classes, more students would enroll in them.
• It was mentioned that discussions are more important in classes as opposed to projects.
• With the limitations of projects, there will be an emphasis on more accommodations and options to take honors classes.
• Honors classes- online?
• Suggestions were made to make the advantages of taking Honors classes more public.
• Currently, Ms. Burks is holding online surveys for what honors classes are requested for the upcoming terms.

Community service or a point system very similar to Lamar University’s in Beaumont, TX, will be required for an Honors diploma. It offers students the opportunity to interact in employment, scholar, and cultural activities. This system was favored by the committee.

• Using a point system, the committee noted will allow the Honors college to partner up with PTK, and expose their members to our program and vice versa.

IV. Student activities Budget Surplus-
• Wouldn’t it be nice if most people had this problem? What to do with 3500 dollars of extra money. All for the Honors Students! After the scholarship money idea was shut down, 😊, Honors gear, such as T-shirts, hats, pens, etc. were highly favored.
• With the time constraint, a trip was out of the question. Also, goodie bags for graduating students, and an after graduation party were on the top of the list.
• The shirts were discussed for a good bit of the time, as students decided on colors and slogans. Among the favorites were black and gold shirts.
• A literary Journal (online) was suggested. This online magazine will showcase the works (Honors projects) of the most talented students (the honor students). Countless names were tossed in the air, anywhere from The Cerebral Chronicle., to silly ones like Keen Asylum. Finally, it was decided to name the journal Sabiduria, after PBCC’s motto “Sabiduria es poder” which is Spanish for “Knowledge is power.”

Attendance:
Jean Anthis
Cherly Contreras
Amanda Grueneberg
Justin Kraft
Sheli Muniz
Camila Oliveira
Edgar Quinones
Kamilla Smith

Submitted by: Sheli Muniz