WEST VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY

Honors Program

Report to the Faculty Senate – Friday, December 5th 2014

• Enrollment:
  o Fall 2014 – 31 students
  o December 2014 – 37 students and 12 candidates

  ✓ Arts and Humanities – 5 students (English – 2, Communications – 3)
  ✓ Business and Social Sciences – 12 students (Accounting – 1, Business administration – 2, Energy management – 1, Political Science – 1, Psychology – 6, Sociology – 1)
  ✓ Natural Sciences and Mathematics – 19 students (Mathematics – 1, Chemistry – 7, Biology – 11)
  ✓ Professional studies – 3 students (Education – 2, HHPLS – 1)

• Student recruitment:
  o Invitation letters are sent to both prospective, admitted, and existing students to join the Honors program at the end of each semester.
  o Information about the Honors Program is presented to all the students during the Freshman Experience classes.
  o Honors Program camping trip took place on the weekend before the beginning of the academic year, August, 15th 2014.

• General Education Honors sections – these courses are open to all students.
  o Spring 2014 – 28 students were enrolled in General Education Honors classes
  o Fall 2014 – 44 students are enrolled in General Education Honors classes
  o Spring 2015 – 21 students were enrolled in General Education Honors classes

• Honors Research – All the students are required to complete Honors Research. The research is composed of three steps:
  o Proposal – the student has to submit Honors research proposal approved by the Honors Thesis Committee no later than the beginning of the senior year.
  o Research – the length of the research may vary; however, it should not be shorter than two semester. During that time, the student is enrolled to NSM 490H/HON 490, Honors Research.
  o Thesis and defense – the final draft of the Thesis is submitted to the Honors Thesis Committee and the Honors Program Coordinator by the end of the semester following a presentation and defense.
Experiential learning – the students are required to participate in two cultural and/or professional activities each semester. At least one of the activities has to be an outreach activity.

- Travel abroad – three students received funds to travel abroad
- Mid-East Honors Association (MEHA) Conference – three students attended the conference Grand Rapids, MI April 4-6, 2014.
- Honors Program annual camping trip
- Outreach activity – the students adopted Rehab’s Rope and raised over $2,300! All proceeds go to prevention, introversion, and rescue of women and girls that were subject to human trafficking.

Meeting with students – there are two required meetings each semester. The first meeting typically takes place on the first Tuesday of the semester. The second meeting takes place after mid-terms.

- Honors Program Committee meetings – takes place every 3rd Tuesday of the month at 8:30 am in Hill Hall conference room.

Graduation – students that complete the academic and extra-curricular activities graduate with the Honors Program Distinction.