



Gonzaga Student Body Association

Senate
2016-2017

April 10th, 2017

Bill: SRSD040405

Sponsor: Fiona Sutherland, Business Administration Senator.

Co-Sponsors: Sophia Troeh, School of Arts & Sciences Senator; Kau‘i Ho‘opi‘i, School of Education Senator; Isabelle Lada, School of Nursing and Human Physiology; Joshua Budig, School of Engineering and Applied Science; Molly Wilson, Arts & Sciences Senator.

Title: School of Arts & Sciences Honor Society Support and Recognition Resolution

Purpose: To designate the revitalization of A&S Honor Societies as a primary goal on the agenda for the Academic Committee, specifically with regards to faculty collaboration and spreading awareness of honor society chapters already on campus.

Text:

Section 1: Whereas, the School of Arts & Sciences has openly expressed a commitment to academic excellence and towards offering “transformative learning experiences that enable students to make a difference in our world¹.”

Section 2: Whereas, the standards of academic achievement are explicitly outlined in the Gonzaga University Mission Statement, which reads as follows, “In keeping with its Catholic,

¹ <https://www.gonzaga.edu/Campus-Resources/Offices-and-Services-A-Z/University-Relations/Giving/What-to-Support/Academics.asp>).

Jesuit and humanistic heritage and identity, Gonzaga models and expects academic excellence in academic and professional pursuits...²”

Section 2: Whereas, it has been noted in several meetings with the officers of honors societies in the School of Arts & Sciences that difficulty regarding event attendance and lack of access to effective campus wide advertising platforms has led to a general lack of activity and output from their membership.

Section 3: Whereas, the University Honors web page does not offer hyperlinks or contact information with regards to the respective academic honors chapters. As such, students are often left to their own investigative resources (either with regards to determining the Faculty Chair for the society, or engaging in research beyond the University webpage). Moreover, the decision, made on behalf of the student, to investigate extraneous resources contradicts the purpose of maintaining an informative honors web page.

Section 4: Whereas, academic honors societies provide several valuable opportunities for students with regards to scholarships, essay competitions, research and leadership positions within their local chapter and the national organization.

Section 5: Whereas, the acceptance of a student into a respective honors society signifies the degree of commitment to his/her field of study. Moreover, student engagement within the local chapter, and the possible attainment of leadership positions within the organization, will provide valuable points of discussion in planning for future graduate school placement.

Section 6: Therefore, GSBA recommends the development of an updated **Academic Honors** web page, specifically with regards to the inclusion of hyper-linked tabs that direct students to a chapter specific page detailing the application process, chapter updates and faculty contacts.

Section 7: Therefore, GSBA recommends that the contact information for the faculty chair of the respective honors society chapter be incorporated as part of the brief description about each society already located on the honors page.

Section 8: Therefore, GSBA offers its full support for the restructuring and/or rebuilding of academic honors societies through collaboration between the Senate Academic Committee, faculty and honor society student officers. The Senate Academic Committee shall also utilize the

² <https://issuu.com/gonzaga/docs/mission-statement?mode=embed&layout=http://skin.issuu.com/v/light/layout.xml&showFlipBtn=true&viewMode=presentation>

GSBA social media platforms, as well as traditional methods of publicity/advertising, to inform their constituencies regarding events facilitated by the honors societies in their respective school.

President

Speaker of the Senate