

AQUINAS SCHOLARS FACULTY BOARD MEETING

March 20, 2018

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. Academic Honesty/Integrity Policy and contract question

--Just a reminder that we have amended the Scholars' contract to include the following:
"All Aquinas Scholars are bound by the University's Academic Integrity Policy as specified in the Undergraduate Catalog. Aquinas Scholars who are found to be in violation of that policy may incur additional program specific consequences."

2. Application Essay changes

--Eric just wanted to give everyone a "heads up" about discussing issues related to the Application Essay (and possible changes to it) at our next meeting—scheduled for April 24.

3. GPA requirement & data from Erica—Top 5/10/15/20% or 3.70—whichever is lower?

--Eric asked that we leave things as they are (for now) with respect to the GPA requirement—mainly because of the complex implementation issues and other practical/logistical considerations.

4. Call for Proposals for Seminars (Summer and Fall 2019 and Spring 2020—Due May 4, 2018)

--I'll be sending out the Call for Proposals after Spring/Easter Break. I'll send three calls.

--Eric has also solicited advice about "Best Practices" from those who have been exceptionally successful in teaching Honors Seminars—as a source of guidance for faculty who may have concerns about/be hesitant about proposing and teaching Honors Seminars.

5. December Survey Data

--Please see the survey data at this link:

<https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrIjoiY2RjMzYzN2EtNmZhZC00MTE1LTgxNWUtMzM4NmZkMDZjOWI3IiwidCI6ImEwODFmZjc5LTMxOGMtNDVIYy05NWYzLTM4ZWJmJmJwMTQ3MiIsImMiOiN9>

--This survey was sent to current students who are non-Scholars, who never applied to the Scholars Program, and whose GPA's qualify them to be in the Honors Program

6. Update on Calling Night

--With help of about ten Scholars (and some Pizza—which eventually arrived after a convoluted ordering and pick-up process!) we were able to contact or leave messages with several hundred students (including many under-represented students) who have been invited to apply to the

Honors Program. We plan to hold a second calling night after students are accepted—to encourage them to come here.

7. Update on application numbers

--Erica has data on our application numbers. Right now, we're slightly behind our regular incoming Freshmen numbers from the past couple years, but our auto-accept numbers a four times our number from last year. More on this after Friday's application deadline.

8. Fall Section Line-up

--Eric has secured commitments from Chairs for non-conflicting scheduled times for courses in Philosophy (115 & 214), Chemistry (115), Theology (215), English (203), and ARTH (110).

9. Updates from Student Board President/VP

--Katie Ray (President of the Student Board) reported that she has sent out a survey requesting preferences for upcoming Fall sections and time slots for courses. She has over 80 received over 80 responses so far.

--Paige Westra (VP) suggested a possible "shadowing program" for non-Scholars to help them learn more about the Honors Program. Carmen Carballo (Student Board R&O/Ambassador) suggested that it could be run like the current Ambassador program.

10. Student Board Meetings

--The last two Student Board meetings of the spring semester are scheduled for 4-17-18 and 5-1-18. The 4-17 meeting will involve Student Board elections. The 5-1 meeting will be conducted by the new Executive Committee.

11. Calendar for upcoming Spring 2018 Faculty Board meetings

--There are two more Faculty Board meetings: 4-24-18—when Eric would like to consider the Application Essay process; and 5-14-18 @ Davanni's—to consider the Seminar Proposals. Erica will be in touch about the 24th of April meeting, and I'll contact you about food orders for the Davanni's meeting—which will take place in their Party Room—from 1-3 pm on Study Monday, May 14.

12. Symposium Update

--This year's Symposium titled: **RECHARGE: Mind, Body, Spirit**, will take place on the following dates: April 10, 12, 16 and 18. Scholars are required to attend at least one of the days' events.

13. Invitations to Honors Graduation convocation—all faculty who teach in the Honors Program?

--Erica will check our budget and see if we can afford to invite all faculty members who teach either Honors Sections and/or Seminars to the event. Dr. Sullivan plans to attend, as well. The event is scheduled for May 3 from 5-6:30 pm.

14. Other?

--Ryan Bremner has volunteered to dig a little deeper into the December survey data to see if there are any nuggets he can discover.