

Western Illinois University Annual Program Review Academic Year 2019–2020

Due to Supervisor's Office: ~~07 April 2020~~ 18 June 2020
Due to Provost's or Vice President's Office: ~~29 April 2020~~ 30 June 2020
Deadlines extended due to COVID-19

Unit: Centennial Honors College

Degree(s)/Program(s)/Options: (List all.)

Pre-Law Honors Minor
General Honors
Honors in the Major (formerly called "Departmental Honors")
University Honors (students who complete both General Honors and Honors in the Major)

Vision, Mission, and Values

Our Vision — University

Western Illinois University aims to be the leading public regional university in providing educational quality, opportunity, and affordability.

Our Mission — University

Western Illinois University empowers students, faculty, and staff to lead dynamic and diverse communities. We provide student-centered undergraduate and graduate programs characterized by innovative teaching, research, and service, grounded in multidisciplinary, regional, and global perspectives. We engage our students in educational opportunities guided by a professional and diverse faculty and staff in collaboration with alumni and community partners.

Our Values — University

Academic Excellence: Central to our history is the commitment to teaching, to the individual learner, and to active involvement in the teaching-learning process. Western Illinois University's highly qualified and diverse faculty promotes critical thinking, engaged learning, research, and creativity in a challenging, supportive learning community. We are committed to student success in an academic environment that encourages lifelong development as learners, scholars, teachers, and mentors.

Educational Opportunity: Western Illinois University values educational opportunity and welcomes those who show promise and a willingness to work toward achieving academic excellence. We are committed to providing accessible, high-quality educational programs and financial support for our students.

Personal Growth: Western Illinois University values the development of the whole person. We are committed to providing opportunities for personal growth in a transformative educational environment that supports the development of wellness, ethical decision making, and personal responsibility in the global community.

Social Responsibility: Western Illinois University is committed to civic and community engagement, equity, social justice, and diversity and will maintain the highest standards of

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integrity in our work with others. We create an environment that fosters and promotes citizenship. We serve as a resource for and stimulus to educational, cultural, environmental, community, and economic development in our region and well beyond it for the public good.

Mission — Centennial Honors College

The Centennial Honors College is an interdisciplinary academic home for the best and brightest undergraduate students in our university. Our mission is to recruit, advise, teach, promote and showcase these students.

Vision — Centennial Honors College

We aim to be among the very best honors programs in Illinois and the region.

Academic Program Goals and Outcomes

Degree/Program/Option Goals

Our goal is to graduate each student admitted to our program with “university honors.”

Student Learning Outcomes

The ultimate measure is the number of students who graduate with honors and the results of our annual academic assessment.

Department/School Evaluation

Describe Department/School strengths:

- 1) Seasoned, visionary honors dean and dedicated staff
- 2) Aggressive honors recruitment
- 3) Award-winning honors advisement
- 4) Unique, challenging honors courses, including domestic and international travel opportunities
- 5) Promotion of honors students for prestigious awards (Rhodes, Truman, Goldwater, Boren, etc.)
- 6) Significant growth, we are the only academic unit that grew in the past nine years, nearly doubling in enrollment without watering down standards
- 7) Increased diversity, nearly doubling the number of African-American and Hispanic honors students in the past nine years, and employing ten African-American staff members
- 8) Unique Annual Constitution Day Celebration—dozens of research poster presentations
- 9) Pre-Law Symposium—among the very best in the state and region
- 10) Pre-Med Symposium—among the very best in the state and region
- 11) Undergraduate Research Day—undergraduate performance, poster and podium presentations
- 12) Quad Cities Research Day—both undergraduate and graduate research presentation
- 13) Simulations—Mock Presidential Election, the largest campuswide simulation in the nation
- 14) Honors Advantage Program—significant discounts from 70 merchants for honors students

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15) Honors Convocations ceremonies to recognize outstanding accomplishments

Describe Department/School challenges:

- 1) Lack of adequate office space—cramped quarters in Malpass Library
- 2) Lack of privacy—all conversations, even whispers, can be heard, in violation of FERPA
- 3) Commitment Scholarships no longer tied to membership in the Centennial Honors College
- 4) No dedicated honors classroom—no sense of community
- 5) No dedicated meeting rooms, totally dependent upon Malpass Library
- 6) No dedicated honors faculty—we are totally dependent upon department chairs to furnish honors faculty and they often pawn the weakest faculty on us in order to build FTEs.
- 7) Inadequate funding—outdated computers, no travel funds
- 8) Lack of staff—we are terribly short on staff
- 9) No dedicated development officer—we only get what the Development Office gives us
- 10) Undue interference and meddling from Sherman Hall

Identify Department/School opportunities:

Given the Honors College's recent devaluation, the infighting among the Board of Trustees, the lack of vision from Sherman Hall, the growing number of hand-picked interim appointments, the bad reputation Western is earning, and the economic retrenchment both in the state and university, it is difficult to see any reason for optimism.

Department/School Plans, Goals, and Metrics

Describe the Department's/School's plans for moving forward in the next academic year.

The Honor College has gone from one of the top academic units at Western Illinois University to one of disarray in just a few short months. The dean who possessed 20 years of honors experience, a proven track record of accomplishments, and a great passion for teaching was summarily dismissed in March. We are down three staff members and have just one person on staff this summer. It will be up to the new interim dean to set goals and plan the future of the Centennial Honors College.

List 3–5 specific goals. Examples might include recruiting and retention initiatives, curricular innovations, increased research activities, etc.

Nothing succeeds like success. Unfortunately, the honors college is headed in the wrong direction. Our incentives, scholarships and initiatives have been thwarted by the interim president.

How will you measure your success?

Success for honors is always measured by the number of top students we recruit and their

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accomplishments.

Faculty/Staff/Student Achievement

For the calendar year January 1, 2019, to December 31, 2019, provide the total number of achievements in your area for the following categories:

BOOKS	CHAPTERS / MONOGRAPHS, REFEREED ARTICLES	CREATIVE ACTIVITIES		CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS		PROGRAM RECOGNITIONS		
		Domestic	Int'l	Domestic	Int'l	Faculty	Staff	Student
#	1	#	#	#	#	#	#	#

Requested Data for the CHC Consolidated Annual Report:

	<u>Spring 19</u>	<u>summer 19</u>	<u>fall 19</u>	<u>spring 20</u>
In-course honors	227	1	180	176
Honors Theses completed	36	2	7	no data yet
Honors Scholars graduated	110	21	33	no data yet
GH courses offered	18	1	16	15
GH instructors	18	1	14	13
Honors FYE courses	0	0	4 (Econ 100Y, Anth 110Y, Soc 100Y, & Pols 122Y)	0
Honors FYE instructors:	0	0	4	0

GH instructors total over three semesters: 35

GH instructors for sp 19, su 19, fall 19, sp 20 include: R. Hardy, T. Helwig, T. Sadler, M. Boley, W. Knox, S. Rahman, J. Myers, J. Covert, R. Di Carmine, K. Boeckelman, A. Geisler, P. McGinty, J. Hancks, D. Zanolla, Y. Deng, E. Taylor, S. P. Ghimire, H. McIlvaine Newsad, W. Howard, G. Pettit, S. Macchi, A. Carr, K. Skien, R. Ness, A. Mossman, D. DeBoeuf, A. Hyde, T. Roberts, P. Schlag, D. Banash, A. Hardemann, P. Young, J. Babin, J. Lee, S. Hill.

Honors FYE instructors total over three semesters: 4

Honors FYE instructors for sp19, fall 19, sp 20 include: T. Sadler, H. McIlvaine-Newsad, E. Taylor, P. McGinty

Honors Ambassadors:

<u>Spring 19</u>	<u>Fall 19</u>	<u>Spring 20</u>
Christian Aviles	Tyler Moseberry	Tyler Moseberry
Gabrielle Bandovich	Ryan Homer	Ryan Homer
Steven Copher	Nashuba Hudson	Nashuba Hudson
Audrey Fletcher		
Emily Gutierrez		
Leah Murphy		
Paula Fernandez Ramirez		
Jordyn Spangler		
Randolph Turkington		
Deisy Vizcarra		

Honors Courses that were Global Issues Courses: Anth 110Y, Econ 351H, Rel 111H

Activities to support Center for International Studies:

- We offer two different Study Abroad scholarships for honors students (up to \$7000 each year).
- We offered an honors course that traveled to Iceland in May 2019.