

TO: Members of the Arts and Sciences Faculty DATE: September 15, 1986

FROM: John E. Selby, Acting Dean, Robert J. Scholnick, Graduate Dean,
and Thomas M. Finn, Dean of Undergraduate Studies

SUBJ: The Center for Honors and Interdisciplinary Studies

On November 5, 1985, the Faculty passed enabling legislation for the administrative reorganization of Honors and Experimental Programs and Interdisciplinary Studies, entailing the following actions:

- A. A redefinition of the responsibilities and functions of both the Committee on Honors and Experimental Programs and the Committee on Interdisciplinary Studies.
- B. The appointment of a director from among the Arts and Sciences faculty.
- C. The provision of an appropriate budget and adequate space.

In doing so the Faculty had in view a grant proposal to the State Council on Higher Education, specifically, to its Funds for Excellence program. As it turned out, 105 proposals, totalling \$6 million, competed for the \$2 million allocated. Of the 28 funded the College's proposal was awarded \$246,304.

As a result of the grant (which also had in view the Writing Resources Center), the Center has been established, the renovations of the space in Tucker basement are largely complete, Ms. Martha Houle of Modern Languages is the Center's acting director for 1986-87, and a budget has been approved to cover its maintenance and operation, including a part-time secretary and two student assistants.

One item in the enabling legislation remains: the redefinition of the responsibilities of the two committees by creating the Committee on Honors and Interdisciplinary Studies. Both committees therefore recommend that the Faculty of Arts and Sciences approve the following resolution:

The Committee on Honors and Interdisciplinary Studies, which succeeds both the Committee on Honors and Experimental Programs and the Committee on Interdisciplinary Studies, is a broadly based standing committee of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences composed of eight members of the faculty appointed by the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, ~~three~~ ^{four} students appointed by the Dean of Student Affairs, the Director of the Center for Honors and Interdisciplinary Studies (a voting member ex officio), and the Dean of Undergraduate Studies (a non-voting member ex officio). The committee elects its chair annually. Faculty members serve three-year terms staggered at the outset to insure continuity.

The function of the committee is to determine the academic policies of the Center for Honors and Interdisciplinary Studies. The committee reports annually to the Faculty concerning the academic programs of the center; appended to the report will be information about its fiscal situation.

The programs under the committee's jurisdiction are the following: College Courses, Experimental Programs, the Honors Program, Interdisciplinary Studies concentrations, interdisciplinary curriculum development, interdisciplinary faculty development, the Kenan Distinguished Professorship Program, Presidential Scholars Program, University Curriculum and Faculty Development Fellowships.

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