



Honors TAP Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 27, 2026
Mesquite Hall (MH) - 246
2:30-4:00 PM

Type of Meeting: Regular
Minutes

Please Review/Bring: Agenda Packet &

Note Taker: Towana Catley

Committee members: (bold names reflect attendance)
Towana Catley, Faculty Co-Chair
Dr. Darcy Wiewall, Faculty Co-Chair
 Dr. Jedidiah Lobos, Dean MSE, Administrative Member
Carla Corona, Arts & Humanities
Dietra Jackson, Counseling
 Elinda Parkinson, Health & Safety Sciences
 Jacqueline Seekamp, Library
Kaitlin Bessinger, Math Sciences Engineering
Pavinee Villapando, Math Sciences, Engineering
Greg Langner, Language & Communication Arts
Dr. Matthew Jaffe, Social & Behavioral Sciences

David L. Adams, Social & Behavioral Sciences
Kevin North, At-Large
 Dr. Rachel Jennings Tafarella, At-Large
 Hannah Valencia, Adjunct Representative
 Vejea Jennings, Ex-Officio
John Vento, Ex-Officio
Bianca Nichols, Honors TAP Student Representative Ann Volk, Health & Safety Sciences Proxy for Elinda P.
 OPEN, ASO Student Representative
 OPEN, Athletics & Kinesiology
 OPEN, Aerospace, Industrial Arts & Applied Technologies
Guest: Aurora Burd, Math, Sciences, & Engineering

Items	Person	Action
I. Call to Order and Roll Call	Towana & Darcy	2:38pm
II. Open Comments from the Public		Acknowledgement of Bianca N. achievement of advocacy, leadership, and community engagement in the establishment of PHYS110 by Professor Bowen offered in the Summer. Bianca spoke with the professor and Dean Lobos and managed to get 30 student signatures petitioning for interest in enrolling in this class if offered.
III. Approval of Agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approval of Agenda – April 27, 2026 	All	
IV. Approval of Minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approval of Minutes – March 23, 2026 	All	Issues Discussed: Action Taken: Rachel motions, Dietra seconds, all in favor. Abstentions by Greg, Matt, and Carla. Follow Up Items:
V. Informational Items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student Success Conference Update CCN Honors Courses Fall 2026 Honors Options Revisions & Workshop Status Honors TAP Faculty & Student Handbook 	All	SSC Update: Attendees report it was well organized, however seems to be the least turn out of HS students this year. Share out of Academic Divisions typically have an invitation to attend the Resource Fair, but this did not happen this year. Anthropology typically is represented at the SSC resource fair portion, but since there

		<p>were no invitations, was absent for the first time after several years of Anthro always being present for this event.</p> <p><u>CCN Honors Courses Fall 2026:</u> 7 Honors CCNs were denied effectively Fall 2026 (ART100,101, ECON101,102, HIST107,108 and ENGL102). ASTR101 has already been corrected and submitted. Articulation Officer of the college reported they will seek clarification as to why these were denied especially since these same courses were approved for Honors COR just last year. More TBA.</p> <p><u>Honors Option Revision Workshop:</u> Norma Jones is going to help Darcy with creating a video using AI and Avatar that will cover the Honors Option Revision information. This will be added to the Honors TAP Repository Canvas. This will be sent to all honors option faculty to help them update their honors option proposals through the Fall 2026 term. Any that are not completed will not be current and will no longer be honors options.</p>
VI. Report	All	<p><u>Issues Discussed:</u> <u>Action Taken:</u> <u>Follow Up Items:</u></p>
<p>VII. Action Item</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May 2026 Honors TAP meeting date • Honors Option Proposals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECON 101 & 102 rev • BIOL 104 • ERSC 101, GEOL 101, 102 • THA 101, 239 • Honors Convocation Planning 	All	<p><u>Issues Discussed:</u> <u>May 2026 Honors TAP meeting date</u> Meeting date needs to be changed. The fourth Monday of May of Memorial Day. Suggested change to Monday, May 18, 2026.</p> <p><u>ERSC101, GEOL101,102 Honors Option Proposal:</u> Professor Aurora Burd presented her honors option work for her three classes. Aurora explains the asynchronous honors model is in compliance with committee standards. Kevin asks about liability waivers in regards to the honors option independent field trip to complete the assignment. Discussion and location of these waivers are taken directly from the college.</p> <p><u>THA101 & 239 Honors Option Proposal</u> Professor Carla Corona presents the material for these courses. Both have similar assignments. Reported that this gave Carla an opportunity to update the proposal since</p>

	<p>it was last looked at in 2014.</p> <p>Both GEOL 102 and THA 239 have experienced cancellation due to low enrollment. This is something to be aware of as the Honors Program depends on the availability of these courses for students to take as honors options.</p> <p><u>BIOL 104 Honors Option Proposal:</u> Dr. Darcy Wiewall presented in sub for Debra Feickert’s class which is also held asynchronous online and meets honors program standards. Upon review of the proposal, committee members raise questions and request more detailed description that illustrates the honors option level of work. For example highlight or give more details of the research paper assignment. Once these details can be added, the committee agrees to approve.</p> <p><u>Action Taken:</u> <u>May 2026 Honors TAP meeting date:</u> John motions to approve date change to Monday, May 18, 2026. Kaitlyn seconds. All present voted in favor.</p> <p><u>ERSC101, GEOL101,102 Honors Option Proposal:</u> Greg motions to approve these honors options. Carla seconds. All present voted in favor.</p> <p><u>THA101 & 239 Honors Option Proposal:</u> Greg motions to approve, Kevin seconds, All who are present vote in favor.</p> <p><u>Follow Up Items:</u></p>
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<p>IX. Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May 2026 Honors TAP meeting date • Honors Option Proposals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECON 101 & 102rev • BIOL 104 	<p><i>All</i></p> <p><u>Issues Discussed:</u> <u>ECON101/102 Honors Option Revisited:</u> Revisited Professor Ibrahim Ganley’s proposal from last meeting to review if the requests made by the committee were completed. It was observed they were not. There are still missing items in these proposals such as: Question #2 is not answered thoroughly illustrating the honors rigor that honors options require. And Question #3, to make the 90 minute block from 2-3:30 be less as this is too much ask, per the Honors Committee.</p> <p><u>Action Taken:</u></p>
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		Follow Up Items:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ERSC 101, GEOL 101, 102 • THA 101, 239 • Honors Mixer Donations & Attendance Apr 29 • Honors Convocation Planning 		<p><u>Honors Mixer Donations & Attendance 4/29:</u> Discussed plans for Honors Mixer. Vento volunteered to help pick up the Costco pizza and ice. Darcy will get beverages and set up. Bianca will be present to help with set up. Donations by committee members were provided to help fund this social event for honors students and faculty.</p> <p><u>Honors Convocation 2026:</u> This year will be shorter as Alpha Iota Permanent Membership will not be recognized due to the club being inactive. There will be a light reception with finger foods and beverages for the last hour of the convocation in the PAT lobby. This is new and came to being based on requests from faculty to have time to meet honored students and their guests/families to engage in personalized congratulatory interactions. The committee reviewed the menu items. Carla proposed the idea of ticketing to manage food distribution to avoid running out of food and ensure everyone will get something. Towana will reach out to James Nasipak about this. Kevin will reach out to students for a vocalist for the National Anthem and a photographer (in case Marketing cannot be there to take photos). Certificates will be managed by Towana and Pavinee, Discussed different presenters for the event- Carla will present the Honors Scholars and Greg will present the Subject Area Award portion. Further discussion for convocation planning to the remainder of the committee meeting.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjournment 		4:05pm
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NEXT MEETING DATE: May TBD, 2026 		



Honors TAP Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 23, 2026
Anthropology Lab, Uhazy Hall 223
2:30-4:00 PM

Type of Meeting: Regular
Note Taker: Towana Catley

Please Review/Bring: Agenda Packet & Minutes

Committee members: (bold names reflects attendance)
Towana Catley, Faculty Co-Chair
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John Vento, Ex-Officio
Bianca Nichols, Honors TAP Student Representative

OPEN, ASO Student Representative
 OPEN, Athletics & Kinesiology
 OPEN, Aerospace, Industrial Arts & Applied Technologies

Lyudmila Michael, Proxy for Pavinee, Math Science, Engr Siohban
Dr. Mark McGovern, Guest presenter for Physics and Astronomy Honors/Honors Option Proposal

Items	Person	Action
I. Call to Order and Roll Call	Towana & Darcy	2:35pm
II. Open Comments from the Public		n/a
III. Approval of Agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approval of Agenda – March 23, 2026 	All	Dean Lobos moves for agenda approval, Elinda seconds, all in favor
IV. Approval of Minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approval of Minutes – November 24, 2025 and February 23, 2026 	All	<p>Issues Discussed: November 24, 2025 Minutes correction of name. February Minutes updates to Honors Mixer information.</p> <p>Action Taken: Update to November minutes approved by John, Dean Lobos seconds, all in favor. Update to February minutes approved by Rachel motions, Dean Lobos seconds, all in favor.</p> <p>Follow Up Items:</p>
V. Informational Items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jack Kent Cooke Scholarship ~ 2 AVC students are semi-finalists SAA Updates Current Honors Student Numbers 	All	<p>JKC Scholarship Semifinalists: Reported the names of 2 Honors TAP students who are semifinalists to this prestigious scholarship. The selections will be announced in April. Discussed last year's recipient from AVC Kaylie Brehm.</p> <p>SAA Updates:</p>

		<p>Reported the error made by a division where the grad list was sent to all faculty in the division. Discussed the Memo and the detailed instructions. Co-Chairs will meet with Intern Dean of A&R for future list access and potentially using Canvas as a means to mitigate the list and uphold FERPA. Also discussed removing the step in Memo where Dean of Division needs to sign off on nomination (since the Grad List and canvas will be used for future SAA). "Advisor" menu option in myAVC dashboard has been removed in a recent update. Discussion in having that access again or at least have it for the Honors TAP Committee members so they can potentially assist with verification of SAA. Another idea is asking Honors Counselors to do this verification as they already have the "Advisor" access. Co-Chairs reported their plans to meet with Interim Dean of A&R for argos access and use Canvas for future SAA process.</p> <p><u>Current Honors Numbers/Data:</u> 29 UCLA TAP Certified 14 UCI TAP Certified 40 Honors TAP Scholars These reflect the final numbers of this graduating/Fall 2025 transfer class. UCI has changed their guaranteed admissions to priority consideration and have made the 3.7 GPA by fall before transfer a hard criteria.</p>
VI. Report	<i>All</i>	<u>Issues Discussed:</u> <u>Action Taken:</u> <u>Follow Up Items:</u>
VII. Action Item <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Honors Option Proposals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASTR C1001, PHYS 110, 120 & 211 • NF100 • ECON 101 & 102 • SOC 101 • Honors Option Workshops Dates 	<i>All</i>	<u>Issues Discussed:</u> <u>Action Taken:</u> ASTROC1001, PHYS110, 120 & 211 H.O. Proposal: Elinda motions, Lobos seconds, all vote in favor. Honors Options approved. NF100 H.O.: Elinda motions, Lobos seconds, all vote in favor. Honors Option approved. ECON101 & 102 H.O. Proposal: John motions to approve with as long as with the recommended changes and to please email the updated proposal, Elinda seconds, all in favor. Honors Options approved pending completion of updates. SOC101 H.O. Proposal: Elinda motions, Dietra seconds, all in favor. <u>Follow Up Items:</u>