Report of the
Undergraduate Educational
Policy and Curriculum
Committee
by Tom Berndt, committee chair
(with some additional comments on undergraduate academic affairs in the college)
UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLMENT IN HHS
REVERSING THE DECLINE IN UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLMENT

• Working with the Office of Admissions to increase applications to HHS
• Increasing our recruitment through social media (Facebook, Youtube, etc.)
• Removing unnecessary obstacles facing transfer applicants (more later)
• Increasing college resources devoted to recruitment (e.g., a new recruitment specialist)
• Asking faculty to be more active in “yield” activities in the period from December through August (our yield last year was 29%, 11% lower than in 2013!)
WHY SHOULD FACULTY BE MORE INVOLVED IN PROGRAMS TO INCREASE OUR UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLMENT?

• A steady decrease in enrollment is not a good thing for any of us!
• Faculty can help in recruiting not just more students but better students, including students more interested in our courses and our disciplines.
• Contacts with faculty have a great influence on whether applicants admitted to Purdue choose to come here: Admitted applicants who don’t come to Purdue say that personal attention from faculty was better at their chosen college than at Purdue!
HOW CAN FACULTY HELP TO INCREASE OUR UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLMENT

• Write notes to admitted students (and our recruitment staff will give you ideas about what to say).
• Attend events for admitted students and their families (and get free pizza!)
• Allow high-school students to visit your classes (space permitting)
• When you see a visiting family in your building, greet them and welcome them to Purdue.
• Talk about how your majors prepare students for future jobs – that’s most important to students’ decisions about where to go to college.
• Give us your ideas about how to increase our yield this year! We want to do everything that we can.
This is an all-campus initiative to reverse a big decline in enrollment of transfer students.

One focus is on removing admission requirements that create major barriers for transfers.

It’s important to consider CODO requirements at the same time, if transfer requirements are revised.

We also need to improve the programs and supports for the academic success of transfer students.

Reviews of requirements are being discussed by the undergraduate committee and by faculty in each unit.
OTHER HIGHLIGHTS OF UNDERGRADUATE COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

• The committee heard a presentation about Purdue’s new National and International Scholarships Office.

• The committee discussed the college’s goals related to students. Besides increasing enrollment, our goals are to increase 4- and 6-year graduation rates and to increase the diversity of our student body.

• The committee heard a very informative presentation by Susie Swithers, who was a Dean’s Fellow in 2013-14, about how more than one semester on probation negatively affects degree completion and about which courses taken by HHS students have the highest DFW rates.

• Psychological Sciences devised a cooperative-education program for its majors. Nursing has one already, and co-op programs in more units would be welcome.
Report of the HHS Honors Programs Coordinating Committee
by Tom Berndt, committee chair
UPCOMING BUSINESS OF THE COMMITTEE

• This year’s first meeting of the committee will be next week.
• The agenda will include status reports on each unit’s honors program or its accommodations for Honors College Students in its majors.
• The agenda will also include a discussion of recent developments in the Honors College.
ACTIVITY IN THE HONORS COLLEGE

• The Honors College Faculty Governance Committee has already met four times this semester.

• The Honors College will have new offices in a new residence hall that will be finished and occupied in Fall 2016.

• Faculty across campus have been invited to submit proposals for HONR courses for 2015-16, with Nov. 15 as the deadline.

• The committee has discussed the option of having Honors College students do an interdisciplinary thesis instead of requiring that the thesis be in the discipline of the student’s major.
QUESTIONS?