



Vision Honours Student Council 2019-2020

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This document contains the councils top priorities and goals for the upcoming year.

1. Increasing the visibility of the HSC

Just as the previous council, we would like to work towards increasing the visibility and approachability of the Honours Student Council (HSC).

- We will try to increase the amount of people who follow the Facebook page made by the previous Council.
- Periodically, we will do social media take-overs; use the social media of, for example, Extensius (VU, UvA if possible) to promote the programme or spread the survey.
- Become more visible by getting a banner, stickers/flyers and council hoodies so that when we promote at events, people can recognise and distinguish us from the rest.
- Creating a LinkedIn page
- Add the Faculty representatives to the HSC page on the VU/ UvA and Extensius website.

2. Creating an Honours Community

Within the Honours Programme, there is currently no platform for students to share their work with each other. Especially since a substantial amount of Honours students end up pursuing noteworthy activities, we believe that increasing visibility of these achievements will help inspire and motivate fellow students more. Concrete ideas to create a closer community are:

- Creating a new segment within the Honours Programme where individual students are interviewed about their (unique) experiences within the programme, in a similar format as popular Facebook page “*Humans of New York*”. Lecturers and Honours coordinators will also be occasionally featured. The ultimate goal is to create a monthly newsletter, where these students’ stories will be compiled. This newsletter will be forwarded to all Honours students (not only Extensius members!) through email and share on the Facebook page of the Honours Student Council.
- Creating a Honours programme Facebook group where all Honours Students will be able to join, past and present, and also people who are in any way related to the Honours programme. This Facebook group can be used for networking, announcing events, or to get information about the programme. We believe that this could serve as the main base for a truly open Honours Community.
- Organising a yearly to twice-yearly masterclass/event that is open for all Honours students. This masterclass will feature Honours alumni or fellow Honours students who have achieved

something noteworthy.

3. Making the Student Council Official

We wish to make the HSC more official at both the VU and UvA. This will help with becoming more visible and getting through to more people. As the previous councils also attempted, we will continue connecting with more UvA coordinators. This year the majority of the council is UvA students and we hope to get in contact with more UvA students through their connections and hard work. This might help with the visibility of the Council and enable us to get some budget.

4. Making the Honours Programme Better

As the Honours Student Council, our mandate and purpose is to promote the Honours programme and motivate more students into enrolling. One way to do this in practice is to take direct feedback from the current Honours students and put it into practice. One common request is that students would like to study more relevant course subjects to their degree of choice, and that the programme offers more options when choosing modules. We would like to increase the diversity of courses by creating a channel for students to pitch in course ideas and connect them with the relevant professors and representatives of the Honours programme.

5. Translating and updating the HSC documents

Furthermore, we would like to translate the HSC documents to make them more accessible for the International students who join the HSC. Additionally, these guidelines can be further improved on and updated; we will look through the documents to see if adjustment of the content and information is necessary. We would also like to update the timeline for the future HSC's. We have heard and experienced ourselves that the promotion and recruitment often start too late. We would like to use the experience of past HSCs and our own, to set up a timeline which can be used as a guideline.

6. Transition HSC 2020-2021

We will try to start recruiting the new HSC before the summer holiday to make sure the promotion and recruitment of representatives starts early.

7. Future

In conclusion, we acknowledge some of the goals mentioned above will need more time to be actually fulfilled. Nevertheless, these are some of the things we think all future HSCs and Honours students would benefit from and we will encourage the future members to pursue these goals if by the end of our term we haven't succeeded. Therefore, we as the HSC of 2019-2020 will try our best to create an Honours Community which is sustainable, an HSC which is more visible and work hard towards making the HP better together with all the existing bodies.