

**Honors Transfer of California  
Directors Meeting  
6 December 2024**

**Draft**

Tim Adell, Victor Valley  
Jochin Arias, LA Harbor  
Christina Axtell,  
James Bany,  
Ruth Blandón, East Los Angeles  
Deirdre Cavazzi,  
Towana Catley, Antelope Valley  
Tracee Cunningham,  
Chase Dimock,  
Marilyn Espitia,  
Deanna Garabedian,  
Natalye Harpin,  
Brian Kennedy,

Jennifer Miller-Thayer, Citrus  
Irena Keller,  
Nathan Lopez, Compton  
Kara Lyn Lybarger-Monson,  
Adriana Moreno,  
Erik Ozolins, Mt. San Jacinto  
Kathryn Sonne, Cypress  
Christina Yamaka-Vu, Mt. San Jacinto  
Cameron Young,  
Renee St. Louis, Southwestern  
Jacqueline Toy, SDSU  
Kassia Wossick, El Camino

**I. Approval of October 11, 2024 meeting minutes:** The October minutes were approved as amended.

**II. Officer's Reports:**

**President's Report:** Christina congratulated our students who have won Jack Kent Cooke awards and reminded us to encourage students to do so in the future. She emphasized that Judy has contacted the summer conference at Chautauqua. They can pre-apply at <https://www.communitycompact.org/>.

**Vice President's Report:** Deferred to Conference Chair's report.

**Treasurer's Report:** We are financially healthy, though we are missing some fees from previous years. Nathan is considering marking these as a loss. We currently have \$33,000 in the bank.

**Transfer Coordinators' Report:** Irena reported that UC Irvine cannot see if some of our students' courses are Honors.

**Secretary:** No report.

**II. Conference Chair Report:**

- Erik reported that the registration application form is open. Directors or their representatives, not the students, must submit the work so directors can vet by Friday, December 20.
  - We, as directors, have discretion to decide if particular work done outside a dedicated Honors class counts as Honors work—for example, if the work was done by a student in good standing in the Honors program or in the process of applying or if the work was done with both the community college and a university or research institution. Jennifer asked if starting the work at high

school and finishing it in community college is acceptable. Erik said it certainly is.

- In late January, the registration window will open. We need to register all students who have been accepted to present, moderators and volunteers, *ourselves* (because these are the easiest to forget). The cost is \$50 for all registrants but moderators and volunteers, which are \$10. The password is 8675309.
- Do not register presenters as moderators or vice versa. March 7 will be the deadline for these registrations.
- Joachin reminded us not to register anyone we don't intend to pay for.
- Christina Axtell asked about creative projects, and Erik reminded us that there needs to be a research element such as playing a song and explaining the techniques or compositional elements.
- We need to RSVP by February 21.
- Registration will be on the first floor of the HUB rather than the second floor landing.
- We will separate volunteer categories between moderators (up to 10 per school) and volunteers (2 per school) giving directions to attendees and moving materials needed for the conference. These should arrive as close to 7:00 as possible.
- We need to invite our administrators and trustees.
- If students give a literature review, it needs to go beyond simply listing a bibliography to score well with the judges.
- **Conference Program:** Emily asked for abstract reviewer, both from directors and our faculty. We currently have only five reviewers signed up and no reviewers from STEM. Erik reminded us that this is a great way to get faculty involved and recruited for future work. The more reviewers we have, the lighter the work. Erik provided the link:  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd8oF481s2E7cv0vMf9jNvSn13z7dv0yuDhLlswpqGiDaeUQ/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd8oF481s2E7cv0vMf9jNvSn13z7dv0yuDhLlswpqGiDaeUQ/viewform?usp=sf_link).
- **Conference Website** (Joachin)
- **Conference Posters:** We need poster judges in late March/early April. Students can make one oral and one poster presentation but not two of either.
- **Conference Awards and Scholarships:** We need readers for abstracts.
- **Conference Communications:** No report.
- **Editor's Report - *Building Bridges* Publication:** No report.
- **Moderators:** In Conference report.

### III. Preparing Students for the HTCC Conference – What does your college do?

- Erik reported that since our next meeting will come after the deadline for scholarship awards, we need to make sure to get those submitted.
- Ruth uses practice runs for both presenters and moderators, usually a couple weeks before the conference.
- MSJC has anywhere from 3-5 practice sessions before the conference. The sub-committee treats it a bit like an oral defense. The student presents and the faculty critique.

- Christina said it's often helpful to give a handout with a map of the venue. Both students and faculty can use this.
- Jennifer usually uses the students as the audience and gives feedback on presentations and PowerPoints.
- Joachin has practice runs with the Honors Club. Students practice the Q and A.
- Kassia reminded us to tell students about conference etiquette.

#### **IV. Honors and Online:**

- Kassia noted that some students are trying to complete the program in a single year, which complicates the schedule. Online classes have helped with the issue of scheduling conflicts. Faculty didn't want to teach the hybrid classes. She thinks we need to go back to the 40% model.
- Renee said small programs such as hers need online classes, since most of the classes are taught that way. She has mandatory Zoom meetings, which helps the quality control.
- Towana reported that their online classes need to be synchronous. She raised the question of dealing with CDC, which does not require synchronous online classes. Christina reiterated Kassia's point about a minimum requirement of face-to-face or synchronous classes. MSJC requires students to meet with their instructors at least once a month.
- Jennifer said Citrus will accept no more than two classes from other institutions. She raised the question of CBC Honors classes—who's ensuring quality control?
- Natalye said she wouldn't oppose online Honors students, but she would require students to meet with counselors or directors to ensure non-bot status.
- Nathan reported that at Compton, he noticed that some of the same students were enrolling in a variety of classes and their numbers all traced to the same phone. They now need to come in to campus with an ID to verify their material existence.
- Joachin reported that LA Harbor codes the students before letting them into the program. This means no student can enroll into an Honors class without being pre-vetted as an organic human.

#### **V. NCHC Conference Share-out:**

- Erik reported that they got to hear from the founder of Long Beach's Freedom Writers program and defining misogyny as a systemic issue rather than act-by-act.
- The conference next year will be in San Diego. Erik reminded us to take advantage of the Wednesday section, which is a great session for new directors.
- The next NCHC Check-in will be in February.
- Erik is running for the Board of Directors. Vote early, vote often.
- Christina liked a student-run session on the last day of the conference. Students emphasized that students may not know where the Honors space is or feel comfortable there. Student representatives should meet other students where they are: at club meetings, in the quad. Jennifer said anything we do to make our programs visible helps. Deidre's students had ideas of

#### **• VI. Items from the floor**

12:30 p.m. General Meeting Adjourned at 12:10.

