

Honor Society Workshop Output

Four of the eight IAFIE Institutional Members involved in the Honor Society committee met during the Annual Conference on June 9 – University of Texas El Paso (Dr. Larry Valero); American Military University (Mike Harbert and David Jimenez); David Grabelski (Mercyhurst College); and Marilyn Peterson (University of Maryland University College).

They reviewed the questions on which the committee had sought input and also looked at the draft bylaws for the Honor Society. Eight questions had been put to the group regarding the qualifications of the schools and students participating, as well as what constituted a sufficient number of courses in intelligence to qualify for an Intelligence Studies Honor Society chapter.

Previous discussion had indicated two-year programs might qualify; the assembled group indicated there would not be sufficient concentration in intelligence in a two-year program to qualify. They group thought that 75% of the student's work should be completed before he or she qualified for induction. Another suggestion for change was that the top 10 percent of the students in the program would qualify for the Honor Society rather than use a specific GPA (e.g., 3.2 or 3.5) as yardstick.

It was mentioned that, as IAFIE is an international association, it should consider developing an international honor society. This might be complex, however, as other countries have varied degree requirements and grading schema. More work will be needed to look into that.

It was also noted that the Honor Society committee should coordinate with the Intelligence Studies model curricula committee to make sure the Honor Society reflects the model.

The issue of only allowing IAFIE Institutional Members to have Honor Society Chapters was discussed and generally affirmed. It was also noted that some had suggested alternate versions of Institutional Membership that would allow, for example, two full memberships for faculty and 12 memberships for students to encourage student participation and honor society publicity.

All these are being taken back to the larger group (which includes Point Park University, James Madison University, University of Texas Pan American, and Michigan State University). That group will then forward its final recommendations for bylaws and criteria to the IAFIE Board for consideration.

Reporting: Marilyn Peterson