



NRHC Business Meeting
National Collegiate Honors Council Conference
Chicago, Illinois
Thursday, November 9, 2023 – 5:00 PM

Establish Quorum

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Welcome and Call to Order | Marcella McCoy Deh |
| Approval of Spring 2023 Business Meeting Minutes | Kathryn MacDonald |

Officer and Board Member Reports

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| President's Report | Marcella McCoy Deh |
| Executive Treasurer's Report | Zachary Aidala on behalf of Mike Tasto |
| 2023 Conference Report | Tanya Radford |
| Student Representatives Report | Hans Mach |
| Faculty Representatives Report | Amy McMillan, Gwen Kay |
| Report on NRHC Journal – <i>Illuminate</i> | Kathryn MacDonald |
| Sponsorships | Zachary Aidala on behalf of Chris Brittain |

New Business

| | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| NRHC Bylaws and Executive Board Structure | Zachary Aidala |
| Spring 2024 NRHC Board Positions and Elections | Zachary Aidala |
| Theme and Planning for NRHC 2024 | Marcella McCoy Deh, Zachary Aidala |
| NRHC Member Involvement | Darryl Peterkin, Marcella McCoy Deh |
| Awards and Contests | Kathryn MacDonald |
| Future Conference Sites | Mike Tasto |
| Other Business | Open Forum |

Adjournment

Approval of Spring 2023 Business Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the NRHC Business Meeting

NRHC Annual Conference

April 2, 2023

Call to Order

President Peterkin called the meeting to order at 7:32 AM.

Approval of the 2022 Business Meeting Minutes

The motion was brought forth by Gwen Kay, and seconded by Irina Ellison. The minutes were approved as written.

President's Report – President Darryl Peterkin

President Peterkin reported that the 2023 conference officially had 380 registrants, and that the Board is hoping for 475-500 registrants for the 2024 conference. He commended the Pittsburgh hotel, and commended the local host schools for their hard work in helping organize the conference. Dr. Peterkin recognized the NRHC Executive Board as well for their work in planning the conference. He reported that the Board is looking to create new programs to improve member experiences, and encouraged members to email the NRHC Gmail with suggestions.

Secretary's Report – Kathryn MacDonald (report delivered *in absentia* via Immediate Past President Chris Brittain)

IPP Brittain reported that Secretary MacDonald has been working on all communications for the organization, and generally on all NRHC business. He remarked that NRHC gets many emails a day, and that Secretary MacDonald responds within 24 hours. He requested that NRHC members be professional in emails and asked that directors chat with students about etiquette and reasonability of requests.

Web Coordinator's Report – Tanya Radford

Web Coordinator Radford reported that the Board had changed platforms for registration and the CFP in the lead up to the 2023 conference, and it seemed like it worked well this year. She reported that NRHC saved \$10K by not doing web-based conference program and going with a pdf version of the program only.

2023 Conference Report – President-Elect Marcella McCoy Deh

President-Elect McCoy Deh reported that thus far NRHC has received very strong positive feedback about the 2023 conference. She highlighted Brian Broome's author talk on Thursday night. She offered a big thank you to the local hosts, who put together the CAT strands which resulted in a highly successful experience for students. She highlighted the new approaches to community service, which were done on site this year. The service opportunities were suggestions by local hosts. She recognized some feedback that more time to ask questions be given during guest speakers.

She reported that 274 proposals were received and accepted, with 6 of those being virtual accommodations. She further reported that NRHC received 28 cancellations as of 3/21 (10% of total accepted proposals).

IPP Brittain added that the hybrid option did not get much traction, and that NRHC will not be doing live streaming in the future, and likely will be an all in-person event in the future. He also explained that NRHC will move up deadline for changes to program, and asked that directors please reiterate to students to commit if they say they will attend the conference.

Faculty Representative's Report – Gwen Kay and Amy McMillan

Faculty Representatives Kay and McMillan reported that this year's Consultant's Corner and Big Picture events were changed in format from previous years. They encouraged directors to please give feedback on their experiences and to suggest ideas for next year.

Student Representative's Report - Derek Stuart, Angela Stieber, and Natalea Hillen

The Student Representatives reported that they have noticed that email communications received more responses than social media. They asked about this and students reported that they check their email and not everyone uses social media. They made a suggestion to keep formal communications to email and more fun stuff to social media. They reported that the Thursday Trivia Night was highly competitive and a big hit. They also reported that they sent out a form prior to Open Mic night inviting participants and asking their needs, which resulted in more responses than in the past. Lastly, they reported that the Saturday Gala was great and everyone had a lot of fun.

Treasurer's Report – Michael Tasto

Treasurer Tasto reported that NRHC is breaking even on profitability. Before COVID, the conference was hitting 500 attendees, but it is lower now. He maintained that at 375 registrants, NRHC is profitable, and that we are hoping to increase numbers at conferences going forward. For 2024, Albany or Providence are the most likely locations.

IPP Brittain added that some of the financial decisions have been tough. By doing site selection ourselves, we can lock in per-plate prices ourselves. He hopes to stay involved in that. Because conference app costs have skyrocketed, we have elected to stick with pdf versions of the program instead. He maintained that the NRHC Board is still doing everything we can to cut unnecessary costs. He reiterated that it is important for students to have the opportunity to present and learn, visit a city, and be fed. He explained that the food and beverage minimum used to be \$55k and is now \$40k, so we are saving money. He also explained

that after some back in forth with the Philadelphia hotel from the 2022 conference, they have agreed that they owe NRHC \$8k and are sending a check.

President Peterkin thanked Treasurer Tasto and IPP Brittain for they hard work, maintaining that we are breaking even, but we are not losing money, and it is because of their hard work.

Motion to accept Treasurer's Report: Linda Kobylarz, seconded by Tanya Radford.

The report was approved unanimously.

Illuminate Report - Kathryn MacDonald in absentia via IPP Chris Brittain

IPP Brittain asked directors to please encourage students to submit. He explained that we will hold a Zoom meeting soon to help students maximize conference experience on their resume, and Illuminate will be a part of that.

Spring 2023 NRHC Board Elections – IPP Brittain

IPP Brittain announced the open positions for this years election.

Linda Kobylarz nominated Caitlin Grant (Associate Director of HP at Post University) for Faculty Representative, who accepted the nomination.

Tanya Radford self-nominated for web coordinator.

Other Business

Patrick Fazzioli suggested that NRHC consider a part-time position for retaining talent on the Board. IPP Brittain responded that barring future pandemics, we should be able to build money in our account, and sponsorships can help build that. Over the next few years we should be able to get there ultimately.

Motion to adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Zachary Aidala, Vice President

Executive Treasurer's Report

NRHC Financial Update

November 9, 2023

Chicago, IL Meeting

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Balance (July 1, 2018) | \$154,935.90 |
| Balance (July 1, 2019) | \$169,177.97 |
| Balance (July 1, 2020) | \$196,493.36 |
| Balance (July 1, 2021) | \$161,184.65 |
| Balance (July 1, 2022) | \$139,701.65 |
| Balance (July 1, 2023) | \$147,592.99 |
| Current Balance (October 27, 2023) | \$155,433.56 |

- 2020 Rollover Update
 - **Total Refunded - \$51,178**
 - **Total Rolled over - \$ 58,680**
 - **After the 2023 Pittsburgh Conference**
 - **Current Rollover Balance \$13,298**
 - 16 schools with a remaining balance
 - Balances (above) don't reflect our drawdown (\$46,000) in the rollover account
 - Financial Accomplishments from 2022-2023
 - Officer and Director Insurance for NRHC Executive Board
 - Hotel Insurance during the event.
 - All Tax Returns are current.
 - 2022-2023 have been filed.
 - Master's student in Accounting is doing them again.
 - Cost Stability established:
 - \$325 Conference Registration
 - 2022, 2023, and 2024 – guaranteed?? Inflation...
 - \$179/night Hotel
 - 2022, 2023, and 2024 – guaranteed?? Inflation...
 - If the numbers (post pandemic) return to ~500-550, Albany will be very profitable.
 - The board negotiated prices, discounts, and there is ample capacity.
 - Institutional Membership has increased from \$100 to \$200.
 - 58 Colleges/Universities paid dues (\$11,600), but 25 institutions registered and participated in the conference, but did not pay dues.
 - So far, there are only 16 institutions that have not paid.
 - Detailed analysis will be provided at the Annual Conference in April 2024.
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- **Submitted by: Michael Tasto, Ph.D. Professor of Economics, Treasurer – NRHC
SNHU, 2500 North River Road, Manchester, NH 03106
(603) 668 – 2211 x3327, m.tasto@snhu.edu**

2023 Conference Report

One important aspect of the Web Coordinator position is to work with our vendor YesEvents on the annual conference's CFP site and conference registration. We have opted not to use an electronic conference schedule and bill institutions for their membership to minimize costs.

The following conference report provides information about proposal submissions (as aggregate and then broken into categories), conference registrants, and attendee type and special dietary requests.

2023 Conference Report

Conference Proposals

Proposals completed: 272
Proposals accepted: 272
Proposals withdrawn: 4

This is a 14% drop in proposals submitted, when compared with 2022.

Registrations

Conference Registrants: 380

This is an 8% drop in registrations, when compared with 2022.

Submissions by Presentation Type

Academic Panel: 47%
Poster: 33%
Roundtable: 12%
Art Gallery: 4%
Perf. Arts/Film Showcase: 3%
Idea Exchange: 1%

Submissions by Strand

Social Sciences: 24%
Mathematics, Sciences, & Health: 22%
History, Politics & Culture: 17%
Language, Literature & Philosophy: 9%
Business, Economics & Technology: 10%
Education: 7%
Media & the Arts: 4%
*Other 7%

(*Idea Exchange, Honors Ed & Practices, Art Gallery, Performing Arts Showcase)

58 Schools were represented among conference attendees.

Registrant Attendee Type

| | | |
|---------------|-----|-------|
| First year | 36 | (9%) |
| Sophomore | 61 | (16%) |
| Junior | 50 | (13%) |
| Senior | 135 | (36%) |
| Faculty | 58 | (15%) |
| Administrator | 26 | (7%) |
| Other | 14 | (4%) |

Dietary requests

| | |
|-----------------|-----|
| No restrictions | 81% |
| Vegetarian | 7% |
| Vegan | 1% |
| Kosher | 1% |
| Gluten Free | 2% |
| Other | 8% |
| Iftar | 5% |

Submitted by Tanya Radford, Dominican University New York, NRHC Web Coordinator

The 2023 Conference of the Northeast Regional Honors Council (NRHC) convened in Pittsburgh, PA, March 30 - April 2, 2023 at the Sheraton Station Square.

The Theme of this year's Conference was "Building Resilience from Tragedy: Understanding Hate, Violence, Loss and Reconciliation." NRHC gathered in effort to grow our understanding of resilience in response to the profound problems faced in the communities in which we live, study and work.

The Conference kicked off on Thursday, March 30 with a surprising standing room only author talk by Pittsburgh native, Brian Broome. His talk focused on his best-selling memoir, *Punch Me Up to the Gods*, ignited a robust discussion and an extended book signing.

Following the Author Talk, students enjoyed their own Mix & Mingle event, while faculty attendees engaged each other in this year's Big Picture Discussion, a speed-networking event. We asked, and we heard you: networking opportunity was a great idea, but you would like more time to do so!

Day Two of the Conference, Friday, March 31, included the always-popular City as Text Explorations. This year's City as Text Speaker was University of Pittsburgh Architecture Professor, Tom Morton. In addition to our traditional tours, NRHC was hosted by University of Pittsburgh's David C. Frederick Honors College for a reception and tour of the campus' Cathedral of Learning. Following these events, conference attendees returned to the hotel for City-As-Text Reflections.

This year marked a variation on NRHC's Make a Difference community engagement offerings. This year, before heading out to the explorations of their choice, students could choose to engage with two local organizations. The Veterans Breakfast Club engaged attendees with their stories of serving the U.S. in conflicts reaching back to World War 2. The local Be the Match organization was on site to collect information from students interested in being screened for bone marrow donation. Both of were very well supported by conference goers!

The Friday evening Student Art Show and NRHC Expo shared space, this year, and enjoyed a respectable audience prior to the evening Banquet and Keynote Address.

The capstone of Day Two was the Conference Banquet and Keynote. Mr. Tony Norman, a local journalist, delivered the keynote addressing the Pittsburgh's connection to the conference theme.

Students concluded Day Two with an Open Mic Night sharing their talents in comedy, song, poetry, and more.

Day Three of the Conference, Saturday, April 1, featured the Idea Exchange and Consultants' Corner for honors professionals, but the day was devoted to student presentations. The signature event was the Presidential Luncheon, where NRHC President Darryl Peterkin enthralled Conference attendees with his Presidential Address.

The Luncheon was followed by the Student Caucus and professional headshots for the students. Concurrently, faculty and staff sharpened their honors administrative tools at the Consultant's Corner.

Students ended their Day Three with the Red Carpet Gala.

The Conference concluded on Day Four, Sunday, April 2. The final day began with the NRHC Business Meeting, which was followed by a final series of student presentations.

The NRHC Awards Ceremony honored the exceptional achievements of honors students, faculty, and staff.

The Conference closed formally with the Passing of the Torch from incoming President Marcella McCoy-Deh to incoming President-Elect Zachary Aidala.

Submitted by Marcella McCoy-Deh, Thomas Jefferson University, NRHC President (Elect) and 2023 Conference Co-Chair

Student Representatives' Report

This year's NRHC student representatives attended the NRHC summer planning meeting in Albany, NY to begin planning for the 2024 annual conference. Since then, the student representatives have maintained an active presence on the NRHC social media platforms, highlighting, for example, the Call for Proposals and Save the Date reminders, as well as information about the host city. Currently, our reps are actively recruiting for the Student Activities Committee (Honors Director Nominations are welcome and highly encouraged!), and they are in the process of finalizing planning for the student events to be held throughout the conference. They will also be hosting a series of student decompression chambers during the lead up to the 2024 conference, so stay tuned for more information on those in the near future. These sessions will allow students to ask questions that will help them better navigate the NRHC conference experience.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica McCort, NRHC Vice President

On behalf of Student Representatives Hans Mach, Anne Guernie Néïssa Marceus, and Olivia Gage

Faculty Representatives' Report

Honors Decompression Chamber

The Faculty Representatives will host an Honors Decompression Chamber in November about topics of interest to NRHC members. Please provide ideas! If we have interest, we will hold another in the spring.

NRHC 2024 Conference

1. The Faculty Representatives are planning the Big Picture Discussion and Consultants' Corner for the 2024 annual conference. The Big Picture discussion will be held the first evening of the conference. Currently, we are planning on a reading and a conversation around managing AI in the classroom. Articles and information are welcome for consideration!
2. In addition to a session on Beginning in Honors, the Consultants' Corner will consider additional sessions that could address:
 - a. Increasing student resiliency/intrinsic motivation
 - b. Engaging students in and out of the classroom
 - c. Admissions – comparing notes on what we do, what works, and what could change
 - d. Thesis – require or not? Pros and cons
 - e. Getting and using data

The Faculty Representatives are eager to solicit feedback on these topics (and would welcome other suggestions) and would be grateful for any volunteers that would be willing to lead a session for the Consultants' Corner.

3. The Faculty Representatives are also happy to discuss peer mentoring and whether that would be helpful for Honors Directors and Deans. Your thoughts are welcome – if there is interest we will find a time for a discussion at NRHC and/or virtually.

Submitted by Dr. Amy McMillan, Buffalo State University & Gwen Kay, SUNY Oswego – NRHC Faculty Representatives

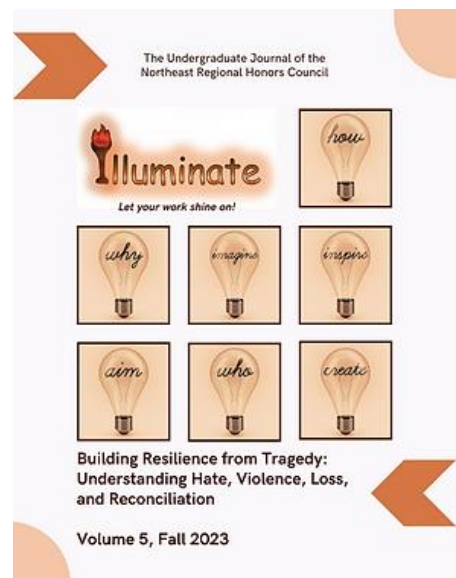
Please Take The *Illuminate* Survey To Help Us Plan for the Future of the NRHC Journal – [Click here](#)

The 2023 Edition of *Illuminate* is online!

www.illuminatenrhc.com

Thank you to the 2023 *Illuminate* Editorial Board:

- Zachary Aidala, Bloomfield College
- Autumn Barszczkowski, Point Park University
- Matt Baran, Buffalo State University
- Chris Brittain, Ocean County College
- AnnMarie Dellipizzi, Dominican University New York
- Kyle Dineen, Frederick Community College
- Helen Fallon, Point Park University
- Irina Ellison, Mercy University
- Morgan Harrington, Buffalo State University
- Gwen Kay, SUNY Oswego
- Kathryn M. MacDonald, Monroe College
- Hans Mach, Community College of Allegheny County
- Jessica McCort, Point Park University
- Marcella McCoy-Deh, Thomas Jefferson University
- Amy McMillan, Buffalo State University
- Alyssa Politi, Mercy University
- Tanya Radford, Dominican University New York
- Michael Tasto, Southern New Hampshire University



Submissions are now open for the 2024 edition. Please read the submission guidelines carefully.

All undergraduate honors students and recent alumni of member institutions are invited to submit their research or creative projects to be considered for publication in the sixth volume of *Illuminate*. Each submission should be original and not be published in any other regional or national honors publication.

All submissions are double-blind, peer-reviewed. A student is limited to no more than two submissions for each edition of the journal. Please note that if a student submits two pieces for consideration and both are accepted, the student will be asked to pick only one for publication.

Each submission should include a completed application, [which can be found here](#). While identifying information should be included on the application, **please remove any identifying information from the actual submission, including name, co-authors, e-mail, faculty mentor and institution.** Do not include any

identifying information in the file names. All text submissions should be in the form of an editable document, specifically Microsoft Word. PDF files are not acceptable.

Students are encouraged to submit works that are connected to the 2024 NRHC Conference Theme--*Ahead of Our Time: Intersections of Thought and Technology Towards the Future*. Students may read more about the theme by clicking [here](#).

GUIDELINES

Academic Work Guidelines

The academic disciplines that are accepted include:

- Business, Economics, and Technology
- Education
- History, Politics, and Culture
- Language, Literature, and Philosophy
- Natural Sciences, Psychology, and Allied Health
- Media Studies and the Arts
- Social Sciences (Sociology, Anthropology, Archaeology, Geography, and Jurisprudence)
- Honors Education and Practices

For further description on each of these "strands" as they relate to the 2024 NRHC Conference, please click [here](#).

Research papers are limited to **a maximum of 5000 words, not including references**. Each paper should include a synopsis or abstract, limited to a maximum of 250 words. References should be formatted in either APA or MLA style, depending on the standard for the discipline. Papers with footnotes can be considered, but please know that contributors will be required to remove and format footnotes to the *Illuminate* style guidelines. All submissions should be double spaced with a size 12 Times New Roman font.

Submissions must include a clear statement of purpose and will be evaluated based on content, analysis, organization, grammar, spelling and formatting.

All digital images should be submitted as .jpg or .png files with a high resolution of at least 300 dpi . Images can be in black and white or color. For images that have been altered in Photoshop or any other program, both the original and altered image should be submitted. Images embedded in documents are not acceptable. Images must be open access if they are to be published by this journal. If authors do not own the rights to the images, they will be asked to provide hyperlinks to the original image so the journal can link to the images directly. Further for authors in the sciences that have papers with multiple formulas, tables, etc., those must be formatted as .jpgs or .pngs for publication by the author.

Please note that while for an NRHC conference, students create poster files via PowerPoint/other software or create a slideshow presentation, **poster files are not eligible for submission to the journal**. Only research papers, reports, theses, etc. are eligible as academic entries to the journal.

Creative Work Guidelines

The following types of creative projects can be accepted:

- Photography
- Poetry
- Short Fiction
- Creative Nonfiction/Essay
- Fine Art
- Illustrations

Creative works should include a title and an artist's statement, limited to no more than 250 words.

All digital images should be submitted as .jpg files with a high resolution of at least 300 dpi. Images can be in black and white or color. For images that have been altered in Photoshop or any other program, both the original and altered image should be submitted. Images embedded in documents are not acceptable.

Any style of poetry can be submitted.

Short fiction is limited to **a maximum of 5000 words**, double spaced, size 12 Times New Roman font.

Essays are limited to **a maximum of 1500 words**, double spaced, size 12 Times New Roman font.

SEND US YOUR SUBMISSIONS

Please click [here](#) to submit your work for consideration to *Illuminate's* 2024 edition.

The deadline for submissions to the 2024 edition is Sunday, May 19, 2024 at 11:59 p.m. EST.

Illuminate Publication Data

| Edition/Year | Total Number of Pieces Published |
|---------------------|---|
| Volume 5 (2023) | 23 |
| Volume 4 (2022) | 32 |
| Volume 3 (2021) | 25 |
| Volume 2 (2020) | 30 |
| Volume 1 (2019) | 18 |
| | <u>128 TOTAL PUBLISHED PIECES</u> |

Volume 5 (2023)

Proposals Received: 34

- 18 Accepted with minor revisions
 - o 1 student paper did not move forward since student had two papers

- 13 Conditionally Accepted pending major revisions and second review
 - o The authors of 3 papers opted out of continuing the process to revise
 - o 10 students sent revisions of their papers
 - 1 student was rejected on the second review due to lack of revision
 - 9 students were Accepted
 - 6 students resubmitted final drafts and moved to publication
 - 3 students did not follow through on the final draft stage

- 3 Rejected

Total Published: 23

- Academic: 18
- Creative: 5

67.6% of Proposals Published

Note – at least six more papers were eligible for publication; however, students opted out or did not follow through on completing the editorial process.

Volume 4 (2022)

Proposals Received: 50

- 25 Accepted with minor revisions
 - o 3 students did not complete the editorial process
 - o 3 pieces were ineligible for publication since student had two acceptances (only publish one per student unless student submits both academic and creative proposals)

- 16 Conditionally Accepted pending major revisions and second review
 - o The authors of 2 papers either opted out of process or did not respond
 - o 14 students sent revisions of their papers
 - 14 students were Accepted
 - 14 students resubmitted final drafts and moved to publication
- 9 Rejected

Total Published: 32

- Academic: 24
- Creative: 8

64% of Proposals Published

Note – at least five more papers were eligible for publication; however, students opted out or did not follow through on completing the editorial process.

Volume 3 (2021)

Proposals Received: 36

- 18 Accepted with minor revisions
 - o 3 students did not complete the editorial process
 - o 3 pieces were ineligible for publication since student had two acceptances (only publish one per student unless student submits both academic and creative proposals)
- 13 Conditionally Accepted pending major revisions and second review
 - o 1 student did not complete the process (but had an accepted paper as well)
 - o 6 other students opted out of the process or did not respond to follow-up emails
 - o 7 students sent revisions of their papers
 - 7 students were Accepted
 - 7 students resubmitted final drafts and moved to publication
- 5 Rejected

Total Published: 25

- Academic: 19
- Creative: 6

69.4% of Proposals Published

Note – at least nine more papers were eligible for publication; however, students opted out or did not follow through on completing the editorial process.

Volume 2 (2020)

Proposals Received: 46

- 24 Accepted with minor revisions
 - o 5 students did not complete the editorial process
- 6 Conditionally Accepted pending major revisions and second review
 - o 1 student did not complete the process
 - o 5 students sent revisions of their papers
 - 5 students were Accepted
 - 5 students resubmitted final drafts and moved to publication
- 16 Rejected (*Note – in 2020, some students were published as part of a “2020 Conference Page” since the conference was cancelled due to COVID-19; some students were rejected since their work was already published*)

Total Published: 30

- Academic: 24
- Creative: 6

65.2% of Proposals Published

Note – at least six more papers were eligible for publication; however, students opted out or did not follow through on completing the editorial process.

Volume 1 (2019)

Proposals Received: 28

- 23 Accepted with minor revisions
 - o 2 students did not complete the editorial process
 - o 3 pieces were not published because students had two acceptances (they were asked to pick one for publication)
- 5 Rejected
- Note: There were not conditional acceptances in 2019

Total Published: 18

- Academic: 15
- Creative: 3

64.2% of Proposals Published

Note – at least two more papers were eligible for publication; however, students opted out or did not follow through on completing the editorial process.

Sponsorships

Position Description

- Attend the NRHC Summer Planning Meeting and 2024 Conference
- Create 2024 Sponsorship Package
- Coordinate sponsorship outreach
- Coordinate communication with new and former sponsors
- Plan 2024 Sponsorship and Exhibitor Fair
- Procure sponsors for all major conference events
- Coordinate site-selection and contract negotiation for 2025 conference
- Assist with conference set-up and behind-the-scenes trouble-shooting

Goal: Raise \$20,000 in new sponsorships for 2024 conference

Compensation: contingent on sponsorships raised, capped at \$5,000 per year.

*Sponsorship Package/Handouts at the End of Materials

NRHC Bylaws and Board Structure

The NRHC Executive Board would like to open discussion on several proposed changes to the Constitution and the NRHC Board. These items include:

1. Adding a Third Student Representative to the Board
2. Restructuring the 4-Year Vice President to Immediate Past President Cycle
 - a. Possibly eliminate Immediate Past President (meaning the term for a Vice President would be three years, cycling through Vice President, President-Elect, and President)
 - b. Adding a new board position (possibly a Publications Officer)
3. Adding *Illuminate* as a subcommittee to the Constitution's By-Laws
4. Removing term limits in positions like Executive Secretary, Executive Treasurer, and Web Coordinator

The NRHC Board will host informational meetings and discussions in the upcoming weeks to fully get member feedback before drafting and formal language/proposals for these changes.

Spring 2024 NRHC Board Positions and Elections

Join the NRHC Board! Nominations and Elections!

Please do consider running for a position, and/or encourage your students to run. This work is extremely meaningful insofar as it directly benefits honors students in the region by providing them with professional, academic and experiential opportunities. Further, for those of you needing external service for tenure and promotion purposes, please consider that Executive Board service is a gratifying and meaningful way to boost your CV.

If you are (or if your student is) interested in running for one of the following Executive Board positions, please send me the required candidacy information, which includes a candidate's statement and a headshot by Close of Business on Tuesday, May 31.

Student candidates must secure a letter from their directors affirming program/institutional commitment to support travel expenses to attend the three meetings of the executive board (July site planning meeting, fall business meeting during the NCHC conference, and the Albany conference). This letter must be included with the candidate's statement and headshot. Please note that NRHC will provide up to \$1000 in travel reimbursements to each student representative.

Elected candidates are strongly encouraged to attend the summer planning meeting (date TBD), Elected candidates are also expected to attend the upcoming NCHC conference and attendance at the NRHC conference is required. Each executive member receives a stipend.

Note: If you wish to nominate someone else, please secure that person's agreement to run before submitting his/her name to me at this email address.

The following positions are up this election period:

Vice President (1 open position): Elected for a one-year term and shall be a member of the faculty or administration of any member institution in the Region. The Vice President shall succeed automatically to the office of President-Elect upon the election and installation of the new Vice President. The Vice President shall succeed to the office of President-Elect should that office become vacant. The president-elect co-chairs the organizing of the annual regional conference; the service of vice-president, president-elect, president, and immediate past president is a four-year commitment to the region.

Faculty Board Representative (1 open position): Elected to a two-year term by a vote of the membership of the Region. Faculty Board Representatives may serve no more than one consecutive term.

Student Board Representatives (2 open positions): Elected to a one-year term by a vote of the membership of the Region. Student Board Representatives may be elected to additional one-year term. The two student representatives plan three key student socials (Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings) of the conference, advertise to students, advise students on what to expect, maintain the region's Facebook page with text and photos, and may coordinate with local student volunteers to help with City-as-Text, the registration table, and other tasks as needed.

Executive Treasurer (1 open position): Elected to a 3-year term, the Executive Treasurer, together with the Executive Secretary, the Executive Treasurer shall maintain and publish a current membership list including names and addresses of institutional representatives, and shall serve as liaison with the National Collegiate Honors Council. The Executive Treasurer shall collect and manage all Regional funds, and may sign

contractual obligations on behalf of the Region or may designate another officer or standing committee chair to do so. The Executive Treasurer may approve fiscal and contractual obligations of less than \$501. Fiscal and contractual obligations greater than \$500 but less than \$1001 require approval of the Executive Treasurer and the President or the President's designee. Fiscal and contractual obligations of over \$1000 require the approval of the Executive Board.

You can find the NRHC Constitution and By-Laws here: <https://www.nrhchonors.com/constitution>

Theme and Planning for NRHC 2024

Conference Theme: **Intersections of Thought and Technology Towards the Future**

The story of humanity - who we are, where we come from, how we see our place in the world - is inextricably linked to technology. We tell the story of humanity through the lens of Ages: The Bronze Age, the Iron Age, the Industrial Age, the Digital Age. What will we call the Age of humanity through the rest of the 21st century and beyond?

We live in a time of unparalleled technological breakthrough and advancement. Creature comforts aside, science, healthcare, information access and transfer, business, computing, analytics, the arts, and many other sectors have changed exponentially over the past few decades. Yet, we also live in a time of unprecedented existential crisis. Climate change looms large. Ecosystems are in distress, and mass extinctions threaten habitats and food chains. In response, the city of Phoenix recently established an Office of Heat Response and Mitigation – the first government office whose sole purview is to address and deal with rising temperatures in the hottest urban landscape in the United States. There are, of course, two sides to each increment of human technological progress - the means to improve society, and the means to abuse technological discovery for selfish, cynical gains. Misinformation and the death of truth already haunt us, piggybacking on technological advances in artificial intelligence. Indeed, our collective sense of reality, already fractured by media echo chambers amplified by social media algorithms, is further threatened by advances in AI technology.

In many cases, those who would benefit the most from access to new technology are often the last to do so. One need not look further than advances in medicine and healthcare to see gross inequity locally and abroad. The story of human technological advancement must include narratives of equity and access, and not just in healthcare. As technology advances, who gets left behind? How do the marginalized and voiceless claim equal access? What is clear is that our public and private institutions have a responsibility to guide and implement technological advancement for the betterment of society. Many people are now working from home, city infrastructures are struggling, and ancillary businesses are closing due to a lack of commuter influx. Another relevant example resides close to home - higher education. Forty percent of New York State-held real estate is part of the State University of New York (SUNY), which includes 64 campuses throughout the state. When institutions get this large, be they public or private, they must be mindful of what they do and how they run. They have incredible power to change lives, whether they are driving or responding to technological change.

Now more than ever, the question of employing new technology is a moral one. Automation threatens countless workers across numerous sectors of our economy. Many of the technological breakthroughs intended to improve worker productivity have not led to a decrease in the time spent working. Of course, a compelling argument may be that automation paves new avenues to career paths that support the automation process. Either way, the successful unification of technology and progress will be one of reconciliation. While the specific threats posed by technological changes such as AI and automation are new, the broader societal impacts are not – workers' rights, child labor, government regulation, and corporate monopoly remain as relevant as ever. As any historian, sociologist, or anthropologist will tell us, abuses of power are a constant in human society. Consideration and critique by the arts and humanities provide cultural context and help us grapple with these issues that new technologies pose. The arts consistently introduce new mediums with which to subvert and critique the current moment, past missteps, and the potential future.

Technology is an emergent property of the intersection of ideas. Human interaction – collaboration and conflict – remains one static in technological progress. We encourage you to think about how the sharing of thoughts and ideas plays a role in driving technological change and its broader societal impact. As the seat of New York State government, Albany has long been at the forefront of technological innovation, so it is no surprise that we have chosen this theme for our 2024 conference. The Erie canal, one of the great technological achievements of the 19th century that revolutionized the transportation of goods, started (both physically and conceptually) in Albany. Now surrounded by institutions of higher education and a nanotech complex that champion technological progress, New York's capital embodies the state's leadership in cutting edge technological research to guide us through the 21st century and beyond. We hope you will consider the roles technology, ideas, and progress play in your own projects and areas of interest. We look forward to engaging with your ideas during our time together in 2024.

Planning for 2024 Conference

Dates & Location

The conference will take place from Thursday, April 4 to Sunday, April 7, 2024

Our conference hotel is the Hilton Albany (40 Lodge Street, Albany, NY; 518.462.6111).

Room Rate per Night: \$159 (single to quad occupancy)

Registration Information

Registration will open in January 2023:

- Early-bird Registration- \$325/person
- Regular Registration- \$335/person
- On-site Registration - \$450/person

Call for Proposals

The Call for Proposals is now open until Monday, November 13th. [Click here for the CFP System.](#)

Important Dates - Mark Your Calendars!

1. Monday, November 13: CFP Closes
2. Friday, December 15: Conference Proposal Notifications Sent
3. Monday, January 15: Conference Registration Opens & Hotel Block Opens

Speakers

Keynote: [Dr. Gretchen Sorin](#)

CAT Speakers: Albany Mayor [Kathy Sheehan](#)

Author/Thursday Night Event Speaker: TBD

NRHC Member Involvement

[Please click here to volunteer for a committee. NRHC is committed to reigniting our committee work this academic year, and we need your help!](#)

The Membership Committee

The Membership Committee shall assist the Executive Secretary and Executive Treasurer in identifying and recruiting members and in designing activities to promote active membership in the Region. The Chair and the members of the Membership Committee shall be appointed by the President with the concurrence of the Executive Board.

The Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee shall be chaired by the Immediate Past-President. The Executive Secretary and Executive Treasurer shall be ex-officio members of the Committee. The President, with the concurrence of the Executive Board, shall appoint other members of the Committee. These people shall be members of the Region and shall be appointed for a one-year term. The Nominating Committee shall present a roster of candidates at a Business Meeting with at least one candidate for each office. The Nominating Committee shall invite nominations of other candidates who must be present at the meeting or who have given their written consent for their nomination. Written consent must be presented to the Chair of the Nominating Committee at or prior to the Business Meeting at which the nomination is made. Nominated individuals will stand for election using voting procedures outlined in Article VI.

The Site Selection Committee

The Site Selection Committee. The Chair of the Site Selection Committee and up to three Committee members shall be appointed by the President with the concurrence of the Executive Board. The Site Selection Committee shall identify sites for future Conferences, identify potential site hosts, and shall work with the Executive Committee. The President-Elect is an ex officio member of the Site Selection Committee.

The Conference Planning Committee

Conference Planning Committee. The Co-Chairs of the Conference Planning Committee are the President-Elect and the President. The Executive Board and the chair of the Ad Hoc Local Arrangements Committee are members of the Conference Planning Committee. The Conference Planning Committee shall organize the Annual Conference and make recommendations for assessments of charges, expenditures of funds, and other budgetary matters associated with the Conference. The President-Elect and President may, with the concurrence of the Conference Planning Committee, appoint ad hoc subcommittees and their chairs to address particular issues or topics of concern. Conference budgets shall be submitted to the Board in a timely manner.

Diversity and Inclusion Committee

The Diversity and Inclusion Committee shall be co-chaired by the President and the Vice President. This committee will develop a plan of action to increase diversity in NRHC, contribute to NRHC materials dealing with issues of diversity, and work to fulfill the intention of this statement. Any honors administrator, faculty member, staff member or student of an NRHC member institution can volunteer.

Illuminate Editorial Board

The Illuminate Editorial Board works throughout the year to review student academic and creative submissions and to provide valuable feedback. If you would like to serve as a member of the Editorial Board, please contact Kat MacDonald at illuminatenrhc@gmail.com

Kathryn MacDonald, Editor in Chief (kmacdonald@monroecollege.edu)

Peer Mentorship Program

We are pleased to announce the launch of the NRHC Peer Mentorship Program (PMP), an initiative designed with you in mind. The goals of the PMP are to strengthen the bonds of community between honors professionals at our member institutions and to provide an organizational mechanism for sharing ideas and experience that could enhance both professional development and student success.

Queries can also be directed here to northeastregionalhonorscouncil@gmail.com, and your inquiry will be passed along.

Awards and Contests

This is a reminder to check the NRHC website for details on the following awards and contests:

Minority Scholarship

NRHC members are encouraged to submit applications for Minority Scholarships to help cover the cost of conference-related expenses for students who are presenting at the NRHC conference. NRHC will award up to twenty (20) scholarships each year. The Scholarship will pay for the student's conference registration fee and \$50 directly to the student for other conference-related expenses.

Partners in the Parks Scholarship

Partners in the Parks is an experiential learning program sponsored by Southern Utah University in cooperation with the National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC) and the U.S. National Parks Service. Partners in the Parks organizes projects at national parks across the country, offering unique opportunities for collegiate honors students and faculty to visit areas of the American landscape noted for their beauty, significance, and lasting value. Each year, NRHC subsidizes the costs for students to attend Partners in the Parks.

Student of the Year Awards

The Northeast Regional Honors Council annually recognizes two students as Student of the Year – one from a two-year institution and one from a four-year institution. The two students selected for an NRHC Student of the Year Award must have demonstrated scholastic excellence and must have made a significant impact on their honors program. The award recognizes academic excellence, outstanding leadership skills, socially engaged contributions, and innovations that the students have shown at their home institution. In addition, the winners are role models for other students in their honors programs and have demonstrated commitment that is beyond their peers. The selected students might also have worked to engage honors ideals outside their home institutions through participation in intercollegiate projects, NRHC and/or NCHC conferences, service to their communities, and more.

Honors Professional of the Year Awards

The Northeast Regional Honors Council is pleased to announce that it will recognize at least one outstanding honors professional this year. Students and colleagues alike are encouraged to nominate honors directors, honors faculty, or other honors staff members for this recognition. To qualify for this recognition, the honors professional must continually demonstrate a dedication to honors education at his/her honors program/college. This individual is passionate about honors, an advocate for students, and embodies the values of his/her honors program/college. The honors professional might also have worked to engage honors ideals outside their home institutions through book or article publications, participation in intercollegiate projects, NRHC and/or NCHC conferences, service to their communities, and more.

Publications Contest

Any current member of NRHC is invited to participate if your honors program or college has its own publication. Valid submissions include newsletters, magazines, or journals that are produced in-print, electronically, or both. Both student-run publications and staff-run publications are eligible.

Publications that celebrate news in your honors program/college are eligible. News “bites” may include but are not limited to activities in honors, profiles of people in honors, updates, events, awards, community

happenings, and more. However, publications that include more “feature-length” work, whether fiction or nonfiction, are also welcome. Publications can also include student artwork, photography, or essays that present student research. Ultimately, all publications are welcome so long as they are produced by the honors program/college.

The publication submitted must have been published between April 2023 and now. Entries with a publication date prior to April 2023 are not eligible.