**Academic Services Division –Honors Program**

(Lydia Hearn, Program Coordinator)

**Responses to IPBT Questions Spring 2012**

• **How are you funded? Is this funding arrangement sustainable? Can you pursue alternate forms of funding?**

Funded entirely through DASB. The arrangement is sustainable for the short-term and mid-term as long as DASB continues to fund us. Long-term we would want to look at General Fund monies if we want to ensure the program’s continuance. Pursuing alternate forms of funding is a possibility. We are starting an alumni network, but the amount of time necessary to pursue funding is not reasonable with the current salary amount for the coordinator. It amounts to about 5 hours per week, which is only enough to cover the day-to-day administration that needs to happen for the program.

• **Are there statistics that show that Honors students are more successful?**

Please see the Honors Program data sheet. It shows the success rates of Honors students to be quite high. Do you mean are they more successful when transferring? The question is unclear. If you mean whether they are successful in transferring, I’ve attached a sheet of schools to which they transfer. You can see how prestigious the schools are. For example, many people claim that Stanford is a school that rarely accepts transfer students. We regularly have at least one Honors student a year accepted into Stanford. I was the coordinator several years ago, and I personally know of four consecutive years in which an Honors student was accepted into Stanford. Since I recently came back to the position, I know that last year and this year we have had at least one Honors student accepted into Stanford. The attached sheet shows other prestigious schools (including Ivy League schools) to which Honors students are accepted. We had a couple accepted to Haas School of Business, and numerous students accepted into UC Berkeley and UCLA. Most of our students are accepted into at least one UC school.

• **Are there a number of faculty dedicated to teaching in your programs such that there is continuity from quarter to quarter?**

We have over 100 faculty on our list of Honors faculty. While not all of them teach Honors course every quarter, we regularly have over 60 faculty who teach Honors classes every quarter. So, yes, we do have a core number of faculty dedicated to teaching in the program. Also, the number has been growing in the past years.

• **How are your faculty and coordinators funded (stipend, release time, load)?**

Additional pay through DASB. $15,000 a year.

\*General Question for Academic Services: What services/activities would you reduce or eliminate if your department was reduced by 50%?

Since Honors is not funded by the College General Fund, it does not make sense to reduce the current program administration and activities. If DASB made a decision to decrease Honors funding by 50%, De Anza could not run an Honors program and students will not have opportunities to participate in an academically challenging community of scholars.