Honors Transfer Council of California
February 13, 2026

Lee Gordon, Foothill
Stella Setka, West LA
Joachin Arias, LA Harbor
Ruth Blandón, East LA
Alyson Butcher, West Valley
Judy Cannon, Crafton Hills
Towana Catley, Antelope Valley
Deidre Cavazzi, Saddleback
Deborah Chau, Saddleback
Carol Damgen, San Bernardino Valley
Chase Dimock, College of the Canyons
John Fox, Foothill
Ninja Friberg, Student Rep
Christina Yamanaka-Vu, Mt. San Jacinto

Maria Jeleca
Emily Liu, Irvine Valley
Irena Keller, Las Positas
Evan Kendall, LA City
Nathan Lopez, Compton
Ea Madrigal, Rio Hondo
Jennifer Miller-Thayer, Citrus
Christina Axtell, Santa Ana
Alannah Rosenberg, NCHC
Natalye Harpin, Grossmont College
Jeff Wheeler, Long Beach
Marilyn Espitia, San Deigo CC
Kassia Wossick, El Camino

1. **December 5 Minutes:** The minutes were approved as amended.
2. **Officers' Reports:**
   a. **President's Report:** Joachin updated the HTCC Directors email group based off the spreadsheet provided by Alannah.
   b. **Vice President's Report:** Emily is looking into how to support ~~in my~~her honors program and cultivate intellectual curiosity, which was inspired by a session at NCHC in November with an honors director from Westchester University, who developed a first-year seminar. Emily ~~will provide a "Padlet" access in the Members Only page to collect ideas from other members~~collected ideas on how Honors Programs can encourage intellectual curiosity, and the Padlet with responses is available in the Members Only section of the HTCC website.
   c. **Treasurer's Report:** Nathan showed a list of schools that have yet to pay dues. We are in good shape with our current budget. We have funding to cover the conference expenses. We are still generating revenue from Building Bridges.
   d. **Transfer Coordinator's Report:** Alannah shared some transfer documents for reporting honors program students. These documents are available in the Members Only page. Yale

and other partners are interested in these forms. Also, ~~Everybody's aware, deadline, due date for UCI and UCLA,~~the deadline for UCLA TAP amd UCI Honors to Honors nominations is March 6th. To remind, UCI now only wants colleges to nominate students for ~~honors to Honors~~the Campuswide Honors Program, ~~not students for priority~~not for guaranteed admission, but more, like, who wants to be in ~~our~~UCI's honors program.

    e. **Secretary's Report:** No report.

3. Conference Chair Report: Emily ~~Reported~~reported on the increase in abstract submissions and compared that to previous years: 2024 (303), 2025 (361) and 2026 (410). There were a lot more poster submissions This year, so 117 compared to 88 last year. There is more demand for student volunteers~~, even~~, and we would even welcome faculty and director volunteers. We also need more help with the lunch line. We are ~~thinking of having some sort of~~hoping to organize student networking during lunch~~, and the logistics need to be figured out. It could just be very informal~~. Directors and students ~~to~~should remember to bring refillable water bottles, because ~~they~~UCR will not be providing water on the day of. We will honor Chris Sleeper from Mira Costa ~~as the name of~~for the Directors Award.

    Conference Program: Emily reported abstract review process cutoff last year was 2.4, and this year was 2.5. The conference acceptance was more competitive this year with the increase in abstract submissions.

    Conference Website: Alannah reminded us that the link for the student guide is on the website and the directors' guide is in Members Only. BackstagePass22 is the Members Only password.

    Conference Posters: Judy reported that we need volunteer judges. The deadline for the ~~conference~~poster submissions is March 8. We will be doing the initial judging roughly a week before the conference. That judging will narrow the list down to finalists, which will be judged on the day of the conference. Discussing the research with students on that day will be part of the process. Faculty may participate in the initial judging without being required to attend the conference.

Awards and Scholarships: The students ~~who~~ should be writing these essays, not directors writing a blurb on behalf of the students. For the Exemplary Achievement Award, it is preferred for awardees to be present, but it is not a requirement.

Communications: The students have found out whether they are accepted to the conference or not by email, and then they were given a ~~to a~~ Google Form to register themselves. We're doing the registration process a little bit differently this year. Each individual student of a group submits the Google Form on the link provided. Honors directors will register non-presenters, so that's directors, faculty, administrators, and students who are not presenting; directors will ~~they'll~~ also register the moderators and volunteers in a separate form. The maximum moderators and volunteers per school posted is 10 moderators and 2 volunteers per college. If you have more than that, it's not a hard and fast~~,~~ maximum. ~~I think t~~That was a maximum that was determined during our UCI years, and now it doesn't really apply.

~~**Editor's Report:** No report.~~

Moderators: Once we do get the nominations for student volunteers and moderators we're going to invite those students to a optional but highly recommended virtual training for moderators and volunteers, and that's on Friday, March 20th.

4. NCHC Updates
- Alannah Rosenberg - The NCHC conference will be in New Orleans in November.

5. BHC Updates:
- The conference will be at Stanford ~~in~~ on May 2nd. Stanford will host a directors reception after the conference. ~~three of Heslet to have~~Three Heslet awards will be given: one for humanities and arts, one for social and behavioral sciences, and one for STEM.

6. Items from the Floor:
None

7. Adjournment: We adjourned at 12:00 pm