

Memorandum of Understanding Between

**Northern Virginia Community College Honors and
George Mason University Honors College**

Transfer Admission Memorandum of Understanding (MOU):

This Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU"), dated this May 1, 2017 (the "Effective Date"), is made by and between Northern Virginia Community College ("NOVA"), an educational institution and agency of the Commonwealth of Virginia, [address] and George Mason University, an educational institution and agency of the Commonwealth of Virginia, located at 4400 University Drive, Fairfax, Virginia 22030-4444. Mason and NOVA are referred to individually as "Party" and collectively as "Parties."

By this agreement, NOVA and Mason express a shared commitment to increasing opportunities for students in NOVA Honors program. By clarifying transfer policies and procedures, which assure articulation between programs, the institutions seek to assist students by creating clear pathways to baccalaureate degree completion through Honors programs.

Purpose

This memorandum of understanding (MOU) facilitates the transfer of Honors Program students between Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA) and George Mason University (MASON).

Eligibility

To be eligible for admission into the MASON Honors College, NOVA students must:

- File a "Letter of Intent" indicating an interest in joining the MASON Honors College program and submit a writing sample to the Honors College one calendar year before planned matriculation to Mason. The Honors College only admits transfer students during the fall and spring semesters.
- Complete an Associate of Arts (AA), or a transfer-oriented Associate of Science (AS) Degree at NOVA.
- Complete the NOVA Honors Core curriculum of 18-21 credits and be in the Honors Program at NOVA, and ENG 111/112.
- Present a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.70 (4.0 scale) upon application to MASON and upon graduation from NOVA.
 - If a student has attended multiple institutions, they must have earned a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.70 on a 4.0 scale at NOVA and all previous institutions.
 - All work attempted at NOVA and any other institution(s) attended will be included in the GPA considered by MASON. The only exception is that, in compliance with MASON policy, a student is allowed to repeat courses where the initial grade earned will not be included in the grade point average calculation.
 - Eligible transfer students must provide transcripts from all institutions attended.

- MASON will evaluate credit granted by Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), and Cambridge International examinations for possible credit; such credit is granted only if examination scores meet established MASON criteria in place at the time the student enrolls.
- Be admitted to MASON.

Implementation

- MASON Honors College will recognize 9 Honors credits completed at NOVA and apply them in the following way:

NOVA Honors (taken)	Mason Honors (applied)
Humanities/Fine Arts (3 credits)	HNRS 122 (3 credits)
Social/Behavioral Sciences (3 credits)	HNRS 131 (3 credits)
Interdisciplinary Seminar <i>or</i> 200-level Honors course <i>or</i> Honors Study Abroad <i>or</i> Approved Honors Internship (3 credits)	Honors Requirement III course (3 credits)

- NOVA transfer candidates must complete a minimum of three courses (approximately 9 credits) in the Mason Honors College as well as fulfilling any remaining science and math courses required by a student’s major or college. The Honors College does require that all students complete an approved calculus course to fulfill the Honors College curriculum requirements.
- If any of the requirements imposed on MASON Honors College transfer students are modified subsequent to the signing of this MOU, NOVA transfer students will be held to the revised requirements. Any NOVA transfer student accepted into the MASON Honors College under this agreement shall be bound by the requirements in effect at the time of acceptance.
- This MOU shall commence on June 1, 2017, with the intent to admit the first students in Spring 2018 or as soon thereafter as administratively possible.
- Students who did not complete the NOVA Honors curriculum may still be admitted to the MASON Honors College on a case-by-case basis.

Benefits

NOVA transfer students who are admitted to MASON Honors College will be eligible for the following:

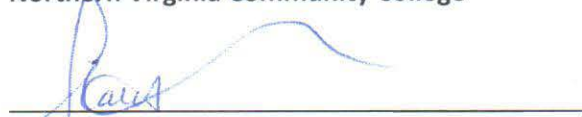
- Honors distinction on students' transcript,
- Designated Honors College medallion at graduation,
- Participation in all Mason’s Honors activities, events, and organizations,
- Residence in upper-class housing (as available under Mason’s Housing and Residence Life Office),
- Priority registration, and
- Access to the Honors Study Lounge

Notice of Change or Termination

Either institution may withdraw from this MOU by notifying the other no less than one academic year before the intended date of termination. No further admissions shall be made under this MOU after such notice is given, but students already admitted to MASON will be allowed to transfer into the MASON Honors College.

WITNESS the following signatures of the Parties:

Northern Virginia Community College



Stacy Rice
College Honors Coordinator

7-11-17
(date)



Sharon Robertson
Associate Vice President, Academic Services

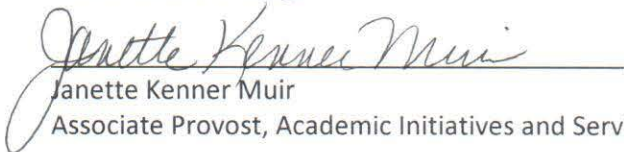
7-11-17
(date)

George Mason University



Zofia Burr
Dean, Honors College

7-24-17
(date)



Janette Kenner Muir
Associate Provost, Academic Initiatives and Services

7-13-17
(date)