

ARTICULATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE SCHREYER HONORS COLLEGE AND THE DICKINSON SCHOOL OF LAW

The articulation agreement, dated October 20, 1998, is intended to provide benefits to both the Honors College and the Law School by (a) enabling each to attract talented and accomplished students and, (b) facilitating collaborative faculty work.

This Agreement provides a process through which students in the Honors College who have completed three-fourths or more of the course work toward their undergraduate degrees and three years of resident study can seek early matriculation in the Law School in the following academic year. Such students would be eligible to receive their undergraduate degrees after successful completion of the first year of work in the Law School.

This Agreement also provides a process for students in the Honors College to obtain an early commitment of admission to the Law School for matriculation in the academic year immediately following the year in which the students receive their undergraduate degrees.

Finally, this Agreement expresses an understanding that Law School faculty and faculty associated with the Honors College will collaborate in pre-law counseling of students in the Honors College, thesis or independent study advising for Law School and Honors College students, and will be encouraged to undertake other joint teaching, research, or service activities.

1. Eligibility to apply for early matriculation in the Law School.

Students in the Honors College who:

- (i) are in their third year in residence in the Honors College; and,
- (ii) anticipate completing three-fourths of the requirements toward the undergraduate degree and the requirements for their major by the end of their third year; and,
- (iii) anticipate graduating with Honors by completing all Honors College requirements, including an Honors Thesis; and,
- (iv) have taken the LSAT test in October or February of their third year; and,
- (v) are recommended by the dean of the Honors College, are eligible to apply for admission to the Law School for the following academic year under the standards and procedures set forth in paragraph 2 below.

A student who meets the foregoing requirements but does not anticipate completion of the major requirements by the end of the third year in residence also is eligible to apply for early matriculation in the Law School but must provide certification from the student's undergraduate advisor and the dean of the Honors College that successful completion of one or more courses in

the required first-year curriculum of the Law School will complete and satisfy the student's undergraduate major requirements.

A student who meets the foregoing requirements but does not anticipate completion of an Honors Thesis by the end of the third academic year in residence is eligible to apply for early matriculation in the Law School on condition that the Honors Thesis be satisfactorily completed by August 15 next following completion of the student's third academic year in residence in the Honors College.

2. Eligibility to apply for early commitment of admission to the Law School.

Students in the Honors College who satisfy the requirements stated in paragraph 1 above but who (a) will not complete their major requirements in three years of residence in the Honors College and (b) will not receive credit toward their major requirements by completing courses in the required first-year Law School curriculum will not be eligible for early matriculation in the Law School. Such students are, however, eligible to apply for an early commitment of admission to the Law School for matriculation in the Law School in the academic year following completion of their undergraduate work in the Honors College. In such cases, the Honors College thesis must be completed by August 15 following completion of the fourth academic year in residence in the Honors College.

3. Law School early matriculation application procedures and standards.

Application: Honors College students who are eligible to apply for early matriculation in the Law School under the terms of paragraph 1 above must complete an Application for Admission prepared by the Law School. The Application will include a statement by the applicant that the applicant intends to complete the program of study for the Juris Doctor at the Law School.

Admissions standards: Applicants for early matriculation should have:

- (i) a cumulative grade point average of 3.50 or better at the end of five semesters of undergraduate work;
- (ii) a superior score on the LSAT test taken in the third year of undergraduate study;
- (iii) letters of recommendation for early matriculation from (1) the dean of the Honors College, (2) the undergraduate faculty advisor, and (3) two other members of the Penn State faculty who are familiar with the applicant's academic work, describing the applicant's intellectual strengths and weaknesses, writing and communications skills and social and academic maturity. The letter from the dean of the Honors College must attest that the applicant has not been found to be in violation of any academic or other rules of Penn State applicable to Penn State undergraduate students generally or to Honors College students particularly.

Honors College interviews: The Honors College may, in its discretion, require that such applicants be interviewed and evaluated for early matriculation to the Law School by an Honors College committee of faculty and administrators which might include a member of the Law School faculty who is not a member of the Law School Admissions Committee.

Application deadline: Completed applications must be presented to the Law School Admissions Committee no later than March 15 of the applicant's third year in the Honors College; this requirement, however, may, in special circumstances, be waived by the dean of the Law School.

Law School interviews: Honors College students who have completed applications for early matriculation to the Law School will be interviewed by the dean of the Law School and by members of the Law School Admissions Committee.

Admissions decisions: Decisions to admit applicants for early matriculation to the Law School will be made by the Law School Admissions Committee on the basis of an assessment of the applicant's intellectual capacity, undergraduate record, maturity, and capacity for success in the Law School. The Law School Admissions Committee may, in its discretion, give preference to applicants who have completed, during their undergraduate work (or through advanced placement credit) courses in American history, American government, macroeconomics, accounting, and/or a foreign language.

4. Law School early admissions commitment procedures and standards. The procedures and standards for early commitment of admission to the Law School are as described in paragraph 3 above.

5. No prejudice. A decision not to admit an Honors College student to early matriculation to the Law School or to make an early commitment of admission to a student will not prejudice that student's ability to gain admission to the Law School during the student's fourth year of residence in the Honors College or after completion of the student's undergraduate program.

6. Pre-Law advising. Students in the Honors College will be eligible for pre-law advising as provided by Penn State through the College of the Liberal Arts or otherwise and, in addition, the dean of the Honors College and the dean of the Law School shall develop a special program of pre-law advising for Honors College students in their freshman, sophomore and junior years that will include (i) access to and presentations by members of the faculties; (ii) presentations by alumni of the Law School and of Penn State who are knowledgeable about the legal profession; and, (iii) visits by interested students to the Law School to meet with faculty and students and to attend classes.

7. Joint mentoring/preceptorship. Students in the Honors College who declare, by the end of their third semester in the Honors College, that they are seriously interested in possible early matriculation to the Law School will, upon their request, be assigned two mentors or advisors, one of whom will be a member of the faculty of the student's undergraduate major department and the other of whom will be a member of the Law Faculty. These mentors will be responsible for advising about course and program selection, Honors Thesis topics, and will make every effort to advise the students so as to maximize the students' chances for both admission to and success in the Law School. Such students also will be eligible to be paired with a graduate of Penn State or of the Law School who has practiced law and who will agree to serve as an informal mentor to the student. Finally, such students will be eligible to use the services of the Law School, including its Career Services Office, for the purpose of finding summer employment related to the students' possible legal career goals.

8. Overseas programs of law study. The Law School operates a summer program of upperclass law study in Florence, Italy and another similar program conducted in Strasbourg, France, Brussels, Belgium, and Vienna, Austria. Students in the early matriculation program will be eligible for participation in these summer programs following completion of one year at the Law School. The Law School will provide such students with a complete scholarship (grant-in-aid) plus reasonable travel costs to one of these programs during that summer.

9. Tuition and financial aid. Students matriculating in the Law School will pay the then applicable tuition of the Law School for their work in the Law School. Such students will be eligible to apply for all Law School need-based and merit scholarships and for all loan programs otherwise available to students at the Law School. Students who are early matriculants to the Law School will also be eligible for AES scholarships (funded by the Honors College) for one year in addition to Law School funded financial aid. The Law School will provide early matriculation students with a single room in the Law School dormitories at normal rental rates. The Law School will give preference to early matriculants for positions as paid research assistants to members of the law faculty during their second and third years of enrollment in the Law School.

10. Effectiveness of Agreement; Periodic review. This Agreement and any amendment thereto will become effective upon (i) the approval of the Law Faculty; (ii) the approval of the deans of the Honors College and the Law School; (iii) the approval of Penn State's Vice Provost and Dean for Undergraduate Education; and, (iv) such other approvals as may be deemed necessary by Penn State's Provost's Office. Operation of the Agreement shall be formally reviewed by the deans of the Law School and the Honors College every three years and such modifications as may be deemed necessary shall be made from time to time in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement.

11. Exclusivity. Neither the Honors College nor the Law School shall enter into any similar (law school) articulation or early matriculation agreement, except the Law School's current articulation agreement with Dickinson College, and except further that with the written consent of the Provost of Penn State, the Law School may enter into similar agreements with other colleges of Penn State and with the honors program of the University of Delaware.

12. Promotional brochure. The Law School and the Honors College will jointly develop and share in the cost of a promotional brochure designed to attract potential freshman students to enroll in the Honors College. Costs shall be shared as follows: 75% to be borne by the Honors College and 25% to be borne by the Law School.

Executed this 20th day of October, 1998

By: Cheryl Achterberg, Dean

By: Peter G. Glenn, Dean

Approved by: John A. Brighton, Executive Vice President and Provost

Interactions between Schreyer Honors College and other Penn State Colleges

There are to be discussions between Schreyer Honors College and the degree-granting colleges concerning: a) whether any majors of the degree awarding college are to be withheld from participation in this articulation agreement; b) whether recruitment materials identifying early matriculation opportunities are to reference majors for which the option is available; and c) agreements on how program planning and advising for students on three-year, fast-tracks in the major are to be conducted.