

LIBERAL STUDIES COMMITTEE

Minutes

January 21, 2005

Attendees: Rebecca Cole, Laura Michael-Blocher, Cynthia Conn, Jeff Berglund, John Doherty, Bruce Fox, Karen Pugliesi, Aregai Tecele, Jack Ferrell, Kapri Saunders, Anne Medill, Gayle Houser

Absent: Eileen Mahoney, Marcia Metcalf, Blase Scarnati, Pat Muster, Dean Pielstick

Guests: Gioia Woods, Paula Garcia

I. Welcome – Jeffrey Berglund

- Blase Scarnati is ill; Jeffrey Berglund will Chair the meeting
- Welcome back to David Sherry
- Reminder that the LSC meeting of February 4 was changed to February 11 due to Dr. Constance Staley workshops on the First year Experience

II. Approval of minutes

- Approval of the December 3, 2004 Minutes deferred until the next meeting

III. Liberal Studies Assessment Plan – Bruce Fox

- Bruce Fox presented an overview of the LS Assessment Plan (handout)
 - Looking for courses where there is already a match for LS skills within course in embedded assignments
 - Compare assignment rubrics and if they are a match; ask permission for sample assignments and then assess them
 - By summer of 2005, the goal is to hire faculty to serve as consultants, who are attuned to assessment, to develop rubrics for selected LS skills
 - Not all LS skills will be assessed in the first year
- Committee discussed use of Alternative A vs. Alternative B of Assessment Plan schedule and how to make the pilot phase of this plan work well. One key goal is to create a system that does not overlap with the current procedures and how this is an end-look at specific skills of LS students
- A motion was made to accept the proposal from the Assessment Subcommittee not as a plan, but as a work in progress. The subcommittee is asked to report back to LSC after the pilot phase for reconsideration of where to go next. Motion was seconded and approved

IV. Proposal for expanding approval for overseas classes with LS requirements – Ron Pitt

- Ron Pitt presented a proposal to expand course approval of international courses that meet LS cultural understanding block and the global diversity requirement
- A motion was made to accept the proposal as stated in the handout given by Ron Pitt. The motion was seconded and approved

V. Summer Reading Program – Goia Woods

- Not all books were available to the LSC over the holidays, so no reason to vote now
- Fredrick Douglass book given out to those who want to read it
- Committee discussed the appropriateness of the choices picked last semester. Many of the choices were considered not appropriate because of level or content
- Discussion about bringing back ‘a winner’ like *Color of Water*. Members expressed the need for student involvement in picking the book. Also a the whole process needs to be reconsidered since UC 101 is defunct
- LSC would like to discuss the Frederick Douglass biography and *Color of Water* at the February 11 LSC meeting and make a decision for this summer

VI. Syllabi Approval – Jeffrey Berglund

- How new course assignments are being made in the absence of Pat Muster. All changes need to be emailed to Blase Scarnati during February
- Timely reviews need to be facilitated
- A change in the review system incorporates working through Subcommittee Chairs to contact faculty to provide feedback. The changes need to be submitted to Blase who will pass them on to the UCC as a Consent Item

VII. LEAP charter membership – Karen Pugliesi

- NAU has been invited to become a charter campus partner for the LEAP campaign (see handout)
- Blase and Karen will be going to the AAC&U meeting next week. More information and will brought back to the LSC

Meeting adjourned at 4:57 PM