

LIBERAL STUDIES COMMITTEE
Minutes
November 3, 2006

Approved 11-17-06

Attendees: Jeff Berglund (presiding), David Best, Brandon Cruikshank, Katie Desmond, John Doherty, Bruce Fox, Dayle Hardy-Short, James Leve, Louise Lockard, Marcia Metcalf, Tom Paradis, Shelly Pleasants, Karen Pugliesi, Enid Rossi, Anne Scott, David Sherry and Aregai Tecele.

I. Welcome and introductions

- Jeff welcomed everyone and noted that he has added time constraints to the agenda to help keep us on track.
- The new Coconino Community College representative to the committee will be Ingrid Lee, Dean of Arts & Sciences.
- The new ASNAU representative to the committee will be Katie Davis.

II. Approval of minutes

- The 10-27-06 meeting minutes were approved.

III. Summer Reading Update

- Anne Scott proposed that the 2006 summer reading book, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* by Mark Haddon, be adopted for use again in 2007, to allow her the time to address some other issues, such as attendance, publicity, and class integration. The committee approved her proposal.
- Anne also proposed that the selection process for the 2008 book begin in March 2007 and conclude by the last liberal studies meeting in May 2007. The committee also approved this proposal.

IV. Skills definitions and outcomes

- The quantitative reasoning definition and learning outcomes were approved as follows.

Definition: Quantitative reasoning is the application of numerical, visual or symbolic reasoning for the purposes of drawing inferences, understanding phenomena or making predictions.

Learning outcomes: Version 2.0 For the purpose of drawing inferences, understanding phenomena or making predictions students should be able to correctly:

- Assess descriptions of both raw and derived quantitative data;

- Select and apply the appropriate mathematical, statistical, or graphical model;
 - Perform data manipulations, and then organize data graphically, numerically, and functionally (e.g. linearly);
 - Interpret the results of the models, including margins of error from statistical data;
 - Use graphs to solve problems in areas such as scheduling, organizing information and finding optimal strategies; and
 - Describe and explain the processes and results of applying quantitative literacy skills.
- The critical thinking definition and learning outcomes were discussed but not finalized. Jim Leve, Katie Desmond, Enid Rossi, Dayle Hardy-Short and Jeff Berglund will work on it and present a proposal at the next meeting.

V. Freshman seminar template

- Jeff distributed an information sheet regarding the development of freshman seminar templates. He also passed a sign-up sheet for subcommittees to work on templates and outcomes. The following subcommittees were formed.
 - Science - FS111: Brandon Cruikshank and David Best
 - Aesthetic & Humanistic Inquiry - FS121: David Sherry, John Doherty, and Jim Leve
 - Cultural Understanding - FS131: Marcia Metcalf and Enid Rossi
 - Social & Political Worlds - FS141: Dayle Hardy-Short
 - Interdisciplinary - FS151: Louise Lockard and Jim Leve
- There was a short discussion about whether the term “freshman seminar” is appropriate.

VI. Miscellaneous

- Jeff distributed a calendar for next semester, listing the main items that he would like to address at each meeting.

Adjourn