LIBERAL STUDIES COMMITTEE **Approved 3-9-07**

Minutes
March 2, 2007

Attendees: David Best, Brandon Cruikshank, Katie Desmond, John Doherty, Jack Ferrell (via phone), Bruce Fox, Dayle Hardy-Short, Eileen Mahoney, Marcia Metcalf, Shelly Pleasants, MaryLynn Quartaroli, Enid Rossi, Blase Scarnati, David Sherry (presiding), and Aregai Tecle.

I. Essential skill definitions and outcomes

Quantitative Reasoning was 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.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students should be able to:

- 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, or functionally (e.g., linearly)
- Interpret the results of models, including margins of error from statistical data
- Use graphs to solve problems such as scheduling, organizing information or finding optimal strategies
- Describe and explain the processes and results applying quantitative literacy skills

Scientific Reasoning was approved as follows

Definition

Scientific reasoning includes the skills of: 1) formulating hypotheses on the basis of observations, 2) obtaining and analyzing data to test (i.e., refute or confirm) hypotheses, and 3) explaining phenomena by means of accepted principles, theories or laws.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students should be able to:

- Formulate hypotheses on the basis of observations appropriate for the discipline
- Formulate and carry out tests of hypotheses employing techniques appropriate for that discipline
- Employ appropriate tools for collecting, analyzing, and evaluating data to test hypotheses
- Communicate results of scientific investigation
- Use a scientific theory to explain features of the world within the scope of that theory

Effective Oral Communication was approved as follows

Definition

Effective oral communication occurs when one creates oral messages that influence, inform, and/or connect with other persons by using organizational structure, supporting materials, and delivery skills suitable to the topic, occasion, and audience.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students should be able to:

- Discover, organize and deliver content that is adapted to the audience, purpose, and context
- Use appropriate verbal and nonverbal communication delivery techniques (e.g., loudness, gestures, posture, eye contact, language)
- Listen actively and respond thoroughly and thoughtfully to questions
- Create and use appropriate supporting materials and presentation aids

II. Minutes

The minutes from the 2-16-07 meeting were approved.

Adjourned