

**Minutes**

**April 27, 2007**

Attendees: Jeff Berglund (presiding), David Best, Don Carter, Katie Desmond, John Doherty, Bruce Fox, Dayle Hardy-Short, James Leve, Louise Lockard, Anne Medill, Marcia Metcalf, Shelly Pleasants, Karen Pugliesi, Blase Scarnati, Anne Scott, David Sherry, and Aregai Teclé.

**I. Welcome**

Jeff welcomed everyone to the last meeting of the semester and thanked the committee for their support.

**II. Update on summer reading program – Anne Scott**

- The 2007 book had previously been chosen as a repeat of The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time by Mark Haddon.
- The selection committee currently has two possibilities for the 2008 book: A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier by Ishmael Beah and A Briefer History of Time by Stephen Hawking and Leonard Mlodinow. They would like to broaden the search, though, so will look at other books over the summer and report back to the liberal studies committee early next fall.

**III. Minutes**

The minutes from the 4-13-07 meeting were approved.

**IV. Elections for next year**

Members were elected to the following positions for next year.

- Dayle Hardy-Short, Chair of the Liberal Studies Committee
- David Sherry, Vice-Chair of the Liberal Studies Committee
- John Doherty, LSC Representative to the Diversity Subcommittee for the UCC

**V. Update on last week's UCC meeting – Jeff Berglund**

- Jeff shared our new scheduling plan to align with the UCC, which appeared to ease some of their concerns about the transparency of the liberal studies program.
- Jeff also expressed to them the liberal studies committee's willingness to entertain the possibility of having department representatives meet with LS subcommittees to review any courses that might not be readily aligned with the new program.

**VI. Update on 3-30-07 GEATF meeting – Karen Pugliesi**

The representatives from the community colleges expressed their concern that our university diversity requirement is creating an obstacle for their students who transfer to NAU. Karen is meeting with several NAU faculty, some from the LS committee, on 5-7-07 to discuss the issue internally and perhaps schedule a meeting with the community college representatives. We want to listen to their concerns and take steps to address the issues. Karen will report back to the LS committee regarding this matter in the fall.

**VII. Possibility of visiting scholar – Karen Pugliesi**

Karen has been approached (via email) by a psychology professor from the University of Rhode Island who is interested in coming to NAU for the spring 2009 semester (his sabbatical). He is involved with his university's general education and assessment programs and would like to spend the semester learning from us and serving as a consultant. Karen envisioned him being housed with the office of Academic Assessment. Committee discussion of the idea was generally favorable.

**VIII. Capstone course proposal**

Anne Medill, David Best, Jeff Berglund, and Louise Lockard will meet next week to review CS 476C.

**IX. Course Syllabus Template**

The handout entitled "Course Syllabus Template" was discussed. There was particular concern whether, for assessment purposes, all the learning outcomes for a given skill need to be addressed in the assignment being assessed. The template will be edited a little more.

**X. Liberal studies course submission form**

Item 30 on the form was discussed regarding wording to indicate a lab. Several suggestions were made. The form will be addressed again at a later date.

**XI. Skill rubric templates**

The example rubrics provided by the office of Academic Assessment were briefly discussed. These are resources that will be shared with faculty.

**XII. Roll out of liberal studies**

- Jeff would like to talk with departments next week to line up the ones who are willing to start their alignment process in the fall.
- Jeff would like to present the new program with templates, resource materials, schedules, etc. before the end of this semester.
- There was discussion about creating a liberal studies handbook to assist faculty and departments with the liberal studies process.

Adjourned.