

LIBERAL STUDIES COMMITTEE
Minutes
January 18, 2008

Approved 2-1-08

Attendees: T.S. Amer, Cruz Begay, Doug Brown, Zhong Chen, John Doherty, Jack Ferrell (via phone), Becky Garrison (via phone), John Hagood, Dayle Hardy-Short (presiding), James Leve, Louise Lockard, Tom Paradis, Shelly Pleasants, Karen Pugliesi, Vicki Ross (via phone), Blase Scarnati, David Sherry, Aregai Tecele and Todd Welch.

I. Announcements

- Bruce Fox is the new director of the Masters of Administration program so he will no longer represent the Honors program. The Interim Honors program director is Anne Scott.
- The search for a new director of the Composition program is underway. Interviews are scheduled for this week and next week. The successful candidate is expected to start this July 1st.
- Todd Welch is the new Council of Academic Professionals representative from Cline Library (replacing John Doherty).
- John Doherty may sometimes substitute for Don Carter as the representative from e-Learning.

II. Approval of minutes

The December 7, 2007 meeting minutes were approved.

III. Sophomore level interdisciplinary course

Karen Pugliesi shared information about NAU's involvement with the Seven Revolutions Project (http://7revs.csis.org/sevenrevs_content.html). Blase Scarnati is our scholar representative to the program. NAU is committed to piloting something in fall 2008 and we are considering offering a sophomore level, interdisciplinary experience, featuring courses related to contemporary, real world issues. The courses will be team taught by specialized faculty and will be offered for liberal studies credit. It will be proposed as a critical thinking course.

IV. Liberal Studies data summary

Zhong Chen (business analyst) presented a brief report regarding enrollments, capacities, frequency of liberal studies course offerings, and various other topics of data. The data was quite informative and produced energetic discussion regarding the management of the liberal studies program.

V. New course proposals

Next week Dayle will assign 38 new course proposals to the subcommittees for review.

VI. Alignment project

Karen Pugliesi is working with Zhong Chen to create a new database to capture data as all the liberal studies courses go through the realignment process. New liberal studies courses will be added to this database as well.

Adjourned

Remaining meetings this semester:

Feb 1, 15, 29; Mar 14, 28; Apr 11, 25