

LIBERAL STUDIES COMMITTEE

Approved 4-25-08

Minutes

April 11, 2008

Present Voting Members T.S. Amer, Cruz Begay, Brandon Cruickshank, Jack Ferrell (via phone), Louise Lockard, Helaine McLain, Vicki Ross, David Sherry (presiding), Aregai Tecele, and Todd Welch.

Present Ex-Officio Members and Guests: John Doherty, Tom Paradis, and Shelly Pleasants.

Excused Voting Members David Best, Becky Garrison, Dayle Hardy-Short, and James Leve.

Absent Voting Members ASNAU representative and Doug Brown.

David Sherry called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

I. Approval of minutes

The March 28, 2008 minutes were approved.

II. New LS course review

A. Approved as proposed

SBS 101 (This course was actually approved via an email vote on 3-10-08 and announced at today's meeting.)

B. Approved with a request for minor revisions, which will be communicated to the department chair.

CVC 101

III. Existing LS courses for realignment review

A. Approved as proposed

ENG 308

ENG 321

ENG 341

ENG 361

ENG 365

SOC 204

B. Approved with a request for minor revisions, which will be communicated to the department chairs.

BME 310

ENG 121
ENG 220
ENG 223
ENG 230
ENG 345

- C. Discussed but not approved. The committee chair will work with the department chairs to revise the proposals for future review.

EDF 301W
SOC 101
SOC 217
SOC 315
SOC 333

IV. Liberal studies and professional courses

The committee discussed the presence of two mission statements on syllabi from professional schools that submit courses for liberal studies credit. There was some concern that the missions could conflict with one another. There was no consensus that a conflict exists here, however; it was agreed that we may want to revisit this issue in the context of managing the unwieldy number of liberal studies courses in the program.

V. Tracking skills

The committee discussed the difficulty of insuring that each of the liberal studies skills be well represented in a student's liberal studies portfolio. The majority of courses submitted focus on the skill of critical thinking, and it is entirely possible that a student could complete the liberal studies program with no courses that focus upon oral communication and only minimal exposure to effective writing and quantitative reasoning.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30p.

Remaining meeting this semester: April 25, 2008

Scheduled meetings for next semester:

Sep 5, 19; Oct 3, 17, 31; Nov 14; Dec 5