



**Liberal Studies Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 10, 2010**

Approved 10-8-10

Present Voting Members: Patrick Battles, Betty Brown, Mark Cornwall, Bruce Fox, Amalia Garzon (via phone), John Leung, Laura Michael-Blocher (via phone), Jim Morgan, Brent Nelson, Linda Robyn (presiding), Dean Smith, Nancy Stackhouse, and Todd Welch.

Present Ex-Officio Members and Guests: Rebecca Campbell, Don Carter, Todd Firth, Greg Glau, Kathryn Kozak, Tom Paradis, Shelly Pleasants, Karen Pugliesi, Blase Scarnati, and Melinda Treml.

Excused Voting Members: None.

Absent Voting Members: Chase Hunt and Chunhye Kim Lee.

I. Welcome, introductions – Lind Robyn, Chair

The meeting was called to order at 3:05PM. The committee members introduced themselves.

II. Acceptance of minutes – Linda

- The 4-23-10 minutes were approved.
- The 8-27-10 minutes were approved.

III. Rep for Diversity Subcommittee – Linda

Dean Smith will represent the Liberal Studies Committee on the Diversity Subcommittee.

IV. Update on Faculty Survey results – Melinda Treml, office of Academic Assessment

- Melinda informed the new members of the committee about the faculty survey that was conducted last spring. She provided a handout which summarized the purpose of the survey and general findings.

The first report was broad, reflecting what faculty think of the LS program. The next report will drill down and explain why they feel the way they do.

- Melinda also provided a handout summarizing Liberal Studies courses and enrollments. We will try to find an appropriate place to post these reports on the web.

V. Future agenda items workshop – Linda

The committee members formed small groups to discuss items that they would like to address at future meetings. LSC members are always welcome to contact Linda directly regarding specific items they would like for her to put on the agenda.

Here are a few topics (in no particular order) that were proposed by the groups:

- transparency (sharing information better, connecting better with faculty, put more useful info on the web)
- discuss what drove the changes in the LS program to allow for lots of choice instead of being more prescribed (as in the past)
- address how our objectives line up with ABOR objectives & goals
- encourage communities of practice/interest to get more coherence from faculty who actually teach LS courses
- look at issues from a student's perspective
- communicate the purpose of LS to students and faculty
- own our own marketing
- provide better information/handouts to the Gateway
- change our perspective to view our students (rather than the diploma) as our product
- better define our role and the role of other faculty (they don't feel a responsibility for the LS program)
- establish a unique identity for the program rather than just a collection of courses
- use the global learning initiative to improve the relationship between the LS program and departments & colleges
- UCC/LSC relationship
- develop a passion for student learning
- the effects of curriculum streamlining on the LS program
- improvement of LS web site
- obtain list of minor programs

VI. LS Program Review– Bruce Fox, Vice Chair

The committee approved the following categories of representation for the LS Program Review team: chair, chair's council, faculty senate, advising community, AADRS, UCC, provost's office, LSC, students. Suggestions of characteristics and/or specific names should be emailed to Bruce.

VII. Miscellaneous announcements

The 9-24-10 meeting is cancelled because the chair & vice chair will be away.

Meeting adjourned at 4:53PM.