Liberal Studies Oversight Committee
Minutes
September 18, 2006

Attendees Present: Melissa Wargo, Peter Nieckarz, Brent Kinser, Tracy Zontek, Luther Jones, Windy Gordon, Brian Dinkelmeyer, Jim DeConinck, Beth Tyson Lofquist, Robert Anderson, Kari Hensley

• Approval of Minutes from 9.11.06 meeting. Table until next week

• Peter’s Report on Meeting with APRC- Currently there isn’t a Chair person on the UCC, Peter submitted proposals for double dipping and FYC. Pending the Chair position be filled the LSOC awaits approval.

• Discussion and possible vote on CHIN 102- The LSOC Committee reviewed and found no reason to disregard approval. The only course in the LS document that can’t have pre-requisites is ULP. Awaiting Marc Couture’s signature the CHIN 102 was approved pending AA-5, let it be noted the syllabus is missing.

• Discussion with Beth about Freshman Reading- It was discussed amongst the committee and still uncertain how the process works. Ideally Tammy Haskett will be invited to discuss the Reading Committee’s process in selection of the Freshman Reading book.

• LSOC recommendations and strategic plan in reaction to assessment reports- In following up on the C1 Tracy noted that of 10+ faculty teaching Wellness courses none were tenured. Retention and graduation rates are important topics with the Chancellor and seem to depend on tenured faculty. The question was raised should we put tenured faculty teaching the LS courses and focus on retention or should they teach the upper level courses with those within the majors? It was suggested that departments monitor adjunct and allow them to be easily accessible to the students by having an office, office hours posted and phone extensions. Beth requested that we table the topic until she had a discussion with Provost Carter about short staffing and the idea of more full time teaching LS courses. It was also mentioned the difficulty depts. are having with new faculty hires getting their 920#s from HR due to Banner, Beth will also check on this.
• Concerted discussion on the options for “fixing” the First Year Seminar- Beth and Melissa volunteered to develop a strategic plan and anyone interested on the LSOC is welcomed to participate in the development or share any ideas. Brent volunteered to be an English representative and Tracy a Wellness representative, thank you to them.

• Meeting Time- Motion was unanimously approved to move meeting time from 3:30 to 3:00 so effective immediately meetings will take place on every Monday afternoon 3:00-4:00pm unless otherwise noted.

• Next Week’s Agenda-
• We will be welcoming Sloan Despeaux as Math liaison for the assessment of the C2.  
• Goal is to wrap up proposal concrete ideas for FYC and get ready for APRC.