Minutes of the Liberal Studies Committee (LSC)
September 6, 2013
University Center, Dogwood Room

Members Present: Brent Kinser (Chair), Carol Burton, Debby Singleton, Elizabeth McRae, Erin Myers, Jim DeConinck, Martin Tanaka, Michelle Scifers, Niall Michelsen, Steve Baxley, Travis Bennett

Members Absent: Gary Jones

Recorder: Ricky Lanning

Guests: Erin McNelis

1. Selection of Committee Chair: The committee discussed the matter of selecting a new chair for this committee. Carol asked for volunteers and nominations. The members of the committee selected their choice from a ballot. Brent Kinser was selected as committee chair by unanimous vote.

2. Discussion of Gen Ed Task Force:
   - Guest Erin McNelis provided the committee with an update on the core/shared Gen Ed Proposal at General Administration while mentioning universal assessment measures. Erin informed the committee that by Jan 2014 a list of suggestions for common competencies across the UNC system will be presented. At the university level, we have seven outcomes that are being sent to the UNC system for feedback. Those outcomes are: Critical thinking, reading, written communication, oral communication, information literacy, creative thinking, and global learning. The Gen Ed Task Force’s final recommendations (2 to 5) will be presented to the faculty assembly in time for their meeting in October 2013. Faculty will have the opportunity to provide feedback before anything is reported back to President Ross. Erin is thinking of hosting a forum to address questions/concerns and she is asking that LSC co-host. There was some brief discussion of transfer credits. The committee also discussed the Collegiate Learning Assessment (CLA). WCU has administered the CLA twice previously and will be administering it to 200 freshmen (fall 2013) and 200 seniors (2014) this academic year.

3. Looking at enrollments for Fall: Carol provided the group data showing current Liberal Studies enrollments. In terms of overall student enrollment, WCU had the highest percentage increase among other UNC system universities.
4. Selection for Ex-Officio member for APRC (Academic Policy and Regulations Committee): As LSC chair, Brent was selected as Ex-Officio member for the APRC.

Time of Meeting Adjournment: 4:45pm