

LIBERAL STUDIES OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE APRIL 1, 2002

Members Present: Millie Abel, Debra Burke, Jim Costa, Mark Couture, Dana Edge, Fred Hinson, Kathy Hosig, Don Livingston, Will Peebles, Scott Philyaw

Members Absent:

Guests: Gary Smith and Anne Rogers

Fred Hinson called the meeting to order by introducing Gary Smith from Environmental Health program and Anne Rogers, Associate Dean of the Honors College to discuss the double-counting issues in the P2 Physical and Biological Sciences Category which requires 6 hours of two different science courses. They requested that the Liberal Studies science courses be waived if the student passes higher level science courses (100-200 courses) that have a lab or applied component. These courses would meet a program or a major requirement and waive the P2 Liberal Studies 6 hours. The Liberal Studies document approved by the Faculty Senate in September 1999 states "However, science courses that meet major or program requirements will fulfill the Physical and Biological Sciences category requirement only, and a Liberal Studies elective will be required to meet the Liberal Studies Perspectives hours requirement." They pointed out that the math requirement in the general education program was not changed in Liberal Studies program and felt that the science requirement in the General Education Program should have been maintained in the Liberal Studies Program. Science students are not being treated fairly and for some programs, it is making it difficult for some programs to meet accreditation requirements.

In Gary Smith's opinion, students have less freedom in sciences and are penalized for having more knowledge and being more informed in the sciences since they cannot double-counts these courses. He thinks this does not help retention.

Anne Rogers pointed out that honor students with Advanced Placement Credit in sciences are upset since they cannot use these courses to fulfill both Liberal Studies and program and major requirements. She stated that many students in the Honors College were upset.

The Committee discussed this situation in detail but did not vote on their request.

The next LSOC meeting will be on Friday, April 12, 2002 at 3:30 p.m. in 540 HFR Administration Building.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pamela Buchanan