

Minutes of the Liberal Studies Committee (LSC)

January 30, 2015

UC Dogwood

Members Present: Brent Kinser (Chair), Baldwin Sanders, Carol Burton, Elizabeth McRae, Ethan Schilling, Heidi Turlington, James Deconinck, Paromita Biswas

Members Absent: Jeanne Dulworth, Martin Tanaka, Michelle Scifers, and Niall Michelsen

Recorder: Deidre Hopkins

Ex-Officio Members/Guests: David Onder, and Heather Pack

1. Approval of minutes from the January 23, 2015 Liberal Studies Committee meeting:
 - The minutes from the January 23, 2015 Liberal Studies Committee meeting were provided to committee members and members were provided the opportunity to review the document. The minutes were subsequently approved as amended.
2. Since the committee decided that the policy should be retroactive to 101 and 202, Brent had a discussion with Nate and he has no problem with submitting an exemplar syllabus for 101 and 202. Their team seemed to like the idea.
3. Brent opened the door for discussion regarding the Draft of the Assessment Team Charge. Niall Michelson emailed Brent stating a concern he had by asking the assessment team to move do this in the context of the 2020 Vision that it might be too much, that there might be conflicts, that it may be enough to ask them to handle the Liberal Studies courses on their own. Do we need to link the Charge in the context of the 2020 plan? It would be misguided to not include the 2020 since that process results in the end a lot of discussion and recommendations about particular outcomes. We may need to get more clarification of what we mean by "in the context of the 2020 Learning Plan." It was decided that we should address the alignment to the 2020 plan (Goal 1.2.4) in the introduction of the Charge by stating that this assessment will be a small part of the assessment of the 5 Institutional Learning Outcomes.
4. Brent posed a question regarding at which point do we need to get Faculty Senate involved? If we have the right to make recommendations to make changes to the Liberal Studies documents, then do we have rights to change it completely on our own? It was agreed by the committee that they do not have the right to change the Liberal Studies programs on their own. Brent will write in the Charge that as the committee receives recommendations and they decide to that we want to act on that recommendation, then the next step is that it will need to go to Senate for final approval to the Liberal Studies document.
5. David Onder questioned as to whether or not the Assessment Cycle/Plan should be included in the Charge? Brent said that he already has an Appendix I as the Rubrics, he will make Appendix II the Calendar.
6. No curriculum requests in Curriculog.

7. C1 Assessment Team members – Jim Deconinck is the committee representative. Nate is finding someone from the WRCS program. We need two other external people to serve on the committee. It was agreed that the other members should come from another college. Since we have representation from Business and A&S, Brent will reach out to the Deans of the other colleges for faculty nominations to serve on the assessment team.
 - It was suggested that we may want to go ahead and reach out to all of the Colleges to look forward to the fall and request faculty nominations.

Time of Meeting Adjournment: 3:58pm

Email Update from Brent on 02/01/15

Greetings colleagues. What better way to get ready for the upcoming super-war for the ellipsoid than to work on the Liberal Studies assessment!

Attached you will find the latest draft of the charge. (Location - *H:/Undergraduate Studies/Liberal Studies/Liberal Studies Committee/2014-2015 Session/2015-01-30*)

I have worked a bit on the rubrics, and I have brought the calendar into some compliance with reality. Check to make sure they are ok.

Niall: we discussed your concern about the strategic plan – I tried to clarify to indicate that any revisions to the LS document need to be focused on enhancing the achievement of Goal 1.2 and Initiative 1.2.4, the relevant items in the plan – all: please let me know if you think my solution suffices, or if I have made any other errors of omission or commission.

I have spoken with Peter Tay of the Kimmel School, and he has happily volunteered to serve on the WRCS assessment team.

Shortly I will email the deans to ask for a 4th “volunteer.”

I need to send this charge to Nate and Peter and volunteer 4 asap, so if you will please send a “reply all” email with any suggestions before half-time, then we can all watch Ms. Perry in peace (that’s a joke—just whenever you can get to it).

For now, enjoy the greatest tax-subsidized event of the year.

Go Bears!!

Brent