Minutes of the Liberal Studies Committee (LSC)
September 25, 2014
University Center, Dogwood Room

Members Present: Brent Kinser (Chair), Carol Burton, Chris Tuten, Heather Pack, James Deconinck, Michelle Scifers, Niall Michelsen, Steve Baxley, Travis Bennett

Members Absent: Elizabeth McRae, Martin Tanaka, Paromita Biswas

Recorder: Deidre Hopkins

Ex-Officio Members/Guests: Katy Ginanni, Erin McNelis, David Onder

1. Update from David and Brent on WRCS (C1) Assessment
   - The assessment is for 101 and 202 courses.
   - Nate has been working on the rubrics to score the students’ outcomes using a Likert Scale.
   - The new Liberal Studies Assessment plan calendar has been sent out reflecting the new calendar has been sent out the members.

2. Roll out of the Assessment Plan
   - We need to be thinking about how to roll out the Assessment Calendar to the university.
   - The consensus was that if the process seems to be working for WRCS, then it should be sufficient for the remaining programs.

   - The question of how will the committee determine learning outcomes if the submitted assignment is an exam vs. an essay? How will the rubrics be aligned?

     1. Ultimately if an exam is submitted, we will have to see the results of the exam in order to see how well the student performed.

     2. Also, the exam must indicate which learning outcome it assesses.

   - David mentioned that the 92#s would not be sent out until after census.

   - All metadata will be stripped from the submitted assignments.

   - The more we can give to the assessment team, the better they can see what is being done.

   - Questions that came up in discussion:

     1. Will the rubrics be worded so that it can be applied to all of the LS programs?
1. It depends really on the program. We hope that by creating the rubrics for C1 that it will be a starting point for the other disciplines.

2. Will the discipline evaluate which learning outcome they are assessing? Not every learning outcome will apply to each discipline.
   
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<th>Example: Discipline</th>
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3. Erin McNelis gave an update from the General Education Council
   - Working with ETS for standardized testing for critical thinking
   - Promoting good habits of assessment
   - Spring 2015 ETS has a piloted Core Assessment going out to the UNC system.

4. Update on Curriculog – hoping to have the final tweaking of the Curriculog account finished in early October.

5. The meeting minutes from 09.04.15 will be approved at our next meeting.

Time of Meeting Adjournment: 4:28pm
Here is an update on LSC happenings:

1) Nate will have the first draft of the rubrics for the WRCS assessment to me by tomorrow or Friday. We will work on these and distribute to the group for review next week, by 15 October. We will then discuss and semi-finalize at the 23 October meeting (I say “semi”-finalize because we might revise further, or the assessment team might have ideas for further revision).

2) We will be at full membership for the 23 October meeting. Ethan Schilling is the new representative for CEAP. Welcome Ethan! Shawn Collins is in the process of electing the 2 members from CHHS (they will notify me by next Friday). At the meeting on the 23rd, we will review the terms of service on LSC for everyone to make sure we have an accurate record. Before the meeting on the 23rd, I will meet/consult with the new members to make sure that they are up to speed on the assessment plan as it stands.

3) Also at the meeting on the 23rd, we will need to define a process for completing relevant rubrics to meet the needs of the upcoming categories for assessment next semester, i.e. P3, P5, and C4.

4) I’ll ask Carol to help me move ahead with creating the survey for the English 101 and 202 instructors. David Onder has generated the list of 920 numbers we will need to survey (so we should be ready to select the sample). This will simply be a pre-populated survey that asks instructors only to identify the outcomes they deliver in their courses, and to offer any qualitative feedback on the LS Program they may wish to provide the assessment team. Carol, please let me know if you need me to consult with the Faculty Commons, or if you want/need to do that.

5) So, although the 23rd should be a busy day, my assessment is that we are progressing according to schedule and that we remain on the path of righteousness.