November 14, 2013

The Executive Committee of the College of Fine and Performing Arts (which also serves as the curriculum committee) endorses the following statement about the Liberal Studies Proposal at WCU:

The Liberal Studies program at WCU should be in alignment with the state guidelines currently being developed. A requirement of 30 hours seems to be the anticipated standard and WCU should adhere to that. If the final proposal results in greater than 30 hours, WCU should also comply with that. Flexibility should be given, however, to allow departments/schools to designate courses within the major to fulfill the additional (>30 hours) LS requirements even if those courses are not approved specifically as Liberal Studies courses.

This statement is very similar to the statement approved by the CFPA curriculum committee in the spring of 2010 which reads as follows:

“The Liberal Studies requirement should be between 30 – 39 hours. However, if the requirement is above 30 hours, the department/school should be able to designate courses to fill the requirements within the distribution. For example, if the LS requirement is 39 hours, the school/department could designate up to 3 courses required in the major (*or its distribution requirements*) to fulfill LS requirements, *even if those courses are not approved specifically as Liberal Studies cour*ses.”

All courses should have designated ties to one or more of the five core learning goals of the QEP.