

LIBERAL STUDIES OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE JANUARY 8, 2001

Members Present: Fred Hinson, Dana Edge, Nory Prochaska, Scott Philyaw, John Habel, Elizabeth Addison, Gary Smith, Will Peebles, Karen White (guest), Kathy Hosig (guest).

Members Absent: Don Livingston (for Robert Vartabedian), Debra Burke

Fred Hinson called the meeting to order and introduced Karen White and Kathy Hosig to the Committee. They were present to address concerns of the Committee about their ND-300, Food Facts and Fads, course proposal. The three concerns were (1) what about the rigor and objectives of the course that make it a 300-level course as opposed to a 100-200-level; (2) what is the difference between the ND-190, Personal Nutrition, and the ND-300 course; and (3) Is the applied component of such a type and lab activity to meet the objective of the physical and biological perspective category at the 300-level? The Committee and the course proposers discussed these concerns. After the guests left the meeting, the Committee continued to discuss the course proposal and felt comfortable with how the course proposers had responded to their concerns. A motion was made and seconded to approve the course on the condition that the course title be changed. The motion was approved unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was to approve the December 12, 2000 minutes. In the first bullet discussing ND-300, five words were deleted and the minutes were then approved.

Fred Hinson distributed a list of all the courses that had been approved by the Liberal Studies Oversight Committee and the Faculty Senate through December 13, 2000.

Fred Hinson announced that the Liberal Studies Program description developed by Nory Prochaska, John Habel, and Elizabeth Addison for the 2001-2002 WCU Catalog had been approved by Academic Affairs with no changes.

The following course proposals were reviewed:

- ◆ CHEM-190: A revised course proposal was discussed by the Committee and some members still had some concerns about the course proposal. The consensus of the Committee was to invite Kenneth Sundberg, the course proposer, to our January 19th meeting to discuss these.
- ◆ ANTH-190: This course was approved.
- ◆ CHEM-191: The corrected and updated syllabus was distributed to the Committee. This course was approved at the previous meeting.
- ◆ ENGL-204: The English Department requested that this course be approved in the World Cultures Perspectives category. This is the first request that the Committee has had to deal with involving a request to have courses in three perspectives categories. The Liberal Studies Program document states, "Each department will choose the category or categories of the Perspectives to which to commit its resources. To ensure that students take courses in a variety of disciplines, departments may offer courses in no more than two of the perspectives categories unless they have the approval of the Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs for Liberal Studies and the Oversight Committee." A detailed discussion followed as to whether this one course should be

the only exception or could the department offer more than this one course in the World Cultures category as exceptions.

A motion was made by Gary Smith and seconded by Will Peebles that ENGL-204 be approved as the only English course in the World Cultures perspectives category. Much discussion followed. Before the vote, Nory Prochaska requested a roll call of each member's vote. The motion was defeated with 4 "no" votes and 3 "yes" votes. The consensus of the Committee was to meet as soon as possible to discuss a plan as to what the Committee should ask when a department requests to have courses in more than two perspectives categories. The Committee also discussed that if a department should request courses in three perspectives categories, then the department should state which of the categories is an exception. The consensus of the Committee was to discuss how to handle an exception before further consideration of ENGL-204.

The next meeting will be on Friday, January 19, 2001 at 3:00 p.m. in the Rogers Room of the University Center.

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Fred Hinson