

Minutes of the November 5, 2002 Meeting

Liberal Studies Oversight Committee

Members Present: Millie Abel, Jim Costa, Mark Couture, Fred Hinson (chair), Marsha Lee Holmes, Will Peebles, Richard Starnes, Charles Wallis

Members Absent: Kathy Hosig, Don Livingston

Fred Hinson called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. in the Rogers Room of the UC. Minutes of the October 29 meeting were approved.

There followed a discussion of possible changes in the Catalog once the Freshman Seminar becomes a category unto itself. Currently, Freshman Seminars are listed in their own section, but also as courses in the various Perspectives areas. This creates some confusion as non-freshmen frequently try to enroll in Freshman Seminars in order to meet Perspectives area requirements.

A motion that Freshman Seminars be listed only in the Freshman Seminar category (that they be removed from the Perspectives Area categories in the catalog) was unanimously passed.

We then discussed the changes that are proposed for the P2 Perspectives area (that P2 be moved to the Core, that the Freshman Seminar be a category unto itself, and that the sole upper level P2 course be deleted from Liberal Studies). It was decided that our proposal be forwarded to the Faculty Senate's Curriculum Committee (chaired by Scott Philyaw) for consideration. Discussion ensued as to whether it is necessary to explain how these changes will be reflected in the Catalog. Fred Hinson agreed to write a draft of the proposal for changes in P2, share it with LS committee members, and finally, send it to the Faculty Senate's Curriculum Committee.

A brief discussion followed about the assessment of the Liberal Studies program. One idea is that the assessment of Liberal Studies should be done by a body separate from that which is responsible for implementing the program.

Finally, we discussed the different ideas for rewarding faculty who teach in the Liberal Studies program. Reference was made to Marsha Lee Holmes's memo of October 27, as well as to the Liberal Studies document (Section VIII, subheading "The Incentives and Rewards System"). We discussed the importance of participation of tenured and tenure-track faculty in Liberal Studies, the involvement of Department Heads, and, perhaps most importantly, financial and non-monetary rewards to those faculty members who participate in Liberal Studies.

Finally, AA-5's were unanimously approved for REL 305 and REL 309. Thanks to Charles Wallis for acting as liaison between the committee and the Department of Philosophy and Religion. The proposals will now be forwarded to the Faculty Senate.

The meeting adjourned at 3:15

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Couture