Liberal Education Program Committee  
Approved Minutes  
Wednesday, April 6, 2011  

Members present:  T. Bennett, J. DaPonte, J. Fields, N. Henderson, A. Marsoobian, E. Okobi, W. Yu  

Ex-officio Members present:  P. Beals, M. Shea  

1. Call to Order  
   • Meeting convened at 1:20 p.m.  

2. Chairperson/Director Update  
   • Change in LEPC meeting location for next 3 weeks:  
     • April 13th in CSC Conference Room (MO 117)  
     • April 20th in MAT Conference Room (EN D122)  
     • April 27th in MAT Conference Room (EN D122)  
   • Please try to attend the UCF meeting on Thursday, when they will discuss our motion regarding the restriction of CT courses by departments. The UCF Steering Committee expects possible contention.  
   • The LEP Advisement Guide drafted by N. Henderson has been sent to the LEPC members for comments.  
   • Many degree evaluations have been submitted to K. Laing, but some degree evaluations are still missing. The committee has been asked to consider allowing students to take Tier 2 courses in the freshman year.  
   • Curriculum development activities: SENCER house call event on April 15th will consist of three presentations in the morning, then a luncheon, and afternoon discussion groups, possibly split into LEP Area of Knowledge subgroups.  
   • The teaching academy will be held June 1-3, and P. Beals is talking with B. Farley-Lucas about having an LEP track during this academy. Davis grant money is still available for curriculum development—the deadline for applications is April 24th.  

3. Minutes of March 30th meeting were approved. (4-0-3)  

4. Business  
   • Tier 2 and the transition period  
     B. Kalk has been having meetings with subgroups of departments in order to discuss scheduling issues for freshmen. During the transition period, some departments want students to be able to take Tier 2 courses in the major. However, data gathered on some courses indicate a high rate of failure by freshmen. Other concerns expressed by departments include majors that are too credit heavy under the LEP, so that students won’t graduate in four years.
However, data gathered indicate that students aren’t graduating in four years under the current AUR system (only 16%). The LEPC has already reduced the prerequisites so that students can take in Tier 2 courses in the second semester of freshman year, and the committee wants to maintain the intent of the tiered system. However, in order to remain flexible during the transition period, the following recommendation was made:

**Motion:** In the spirit of the desire for flexibility during the transition period, the LEP director in consultation with the LEPC will negotiate “side letters” with departments that have transitioned AUR courses into Tier 2 of the LEP. These side letters would allow flexibility during the transition period so that students can take such courses without the Tier 1 prerequisites specified in the LEP document for a period of two years (until Spring 2013). This is done with the understanding that the department will be working on course revisions so that by the end of the two-year period, either a new course will be proposed that will serve as the major requirement or a new course will be proposed to replace the AUR course as the Tier 2 LEP course. (6-0-0)

**Rationale:** Many departments have transitioned an AUR course that also serves as an introduction to the major into Tier 2 of the LEP program. According to the LEP document, all Tier 2 courses have a prerequisite of Critical Thinking and a co-requisite of ENG 112, which effectively means that students cannot take Tier 2 courses in the first semester of the freshman year. Some departments have raised concerns that if their majors are not allowed to take their “introduction to the major” course in the first semester of their freshman year, that students will not be able to graduate within four years. The proposed recommendation is intended to allow for flexibility during the transition period, while still preserving the spirit of the LEP program by asking departments to use the transition period to consider how best to address the issue with new course(s).

5. Adjournment
   - The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by T. Bennett. These minutes have been approved.