Minutes
Liberal Education Program Committee
Wednesday, October 12, 2011
3:25-4:45, Math Conference Room, EN D122

Present: Polly Beals, John DaPonte, Joe Fields, Wendy Hardenberg, Nicole Henderson, Elliott Horch, Liz Keenan, Rich Kustin, Armen Marsoobian, Wes O’Brien (recording), Jim Tait, Deb Weiss (chairperson)

Announcements

Armen Marsoobian announced a meeting of Critical Thinking faculty on 10/14 during community hour in EN A113.

Continued discussion of Affinity Groups/Coordinators/Consultants for Tier 2 Areas of Knowledge

The Committee returned to last week’s discussion regarding the question of the name Affinity Group vs. the name Steering Committee. We discussed the role of the groups, the formality and/or informality suggested by each name and the various references to Steering Committee in the LEP document (which does not use the name Affinity Group at all). The Committee agreed to retain the name Affinity Group.

Jim Tait passed out copy defining the role of the Affinity Groups. Discussion turned to the working motion supplied by Deb Weiss. After much discussion, which included such concerns as the scope of the task included in the motion, the implications embedded in the word assessment, the division of labor between Coordinator and Affinity Group, the committee drafted language for the motion regarding the group’s description. The committee then discussed the language in the working motion regarding the role of the Coordinators. Issues raised included the call for reassigned time and the impact it would have on those already receiving it, term limits and whether or not to bring them into line with those already employed by UCF. Finally, the committee discussed the language in the working motion regarding the role of Consultants. The following motion was then approved with 6 in favor and 1 against.

The LEPC moves that Affinity Groups (AG) for the Tier 2 Areas of Knowledge (Area) be created. The AGs shall be open to all interested faculty members. In accordance with the LEP document (p. 12), the goal of the AGs is to ensure continuous assessment and improvement of the courses in the Tier 2 Areas. The AGs shall convene regularly in order to:

- Share and review information regarding the curricula and pedagogies in the Areas of Knowledge.
- Determine at least one annual action item that would strengthen student success.
**Coordinators**
Each AG shall be chaired by a Coordinator to be selected by the Group for a one year term with a limit of three consecutive terms. The Coordinator shall have either had a Tier 2 course in the relevant Area approved or submitted as a proposal. It is recommended that Coordinators receive appropriate reassigned time. The Coordinator shall facilitate faculty activities in each Tier 2 Area of Knowledge as required by the LEP Document and other university policies. These activities include, but are not limited to:

- Convening and chairing AG meetings as needed
- Assisting the LEP Director in handling transfer student issues
- Communicating with those that teach in the Area
- Facilitating the sharing of syllabi and other instructional materials
- Serving in an advisory capacity to UWIC
- Working with the LEP Director

**Consultants**
Consultants are self-selected members of the AGs who have expertise in their Area and are familiar with the LEP course approval process. Consultants should be capable of assisting faculty members in creating or adapting courses in their Areas. The Coordinator of the LEP Director shall match interested faculty with Consultants. AG Coordinators may also serve as Consultants.

**Primary (non-textbook) expository source definition for Intellectual Foundation Component for Tier 2 courses.**
The discussion turned to UWICs request for clarification regarding the definition of a primary (non-textbook) expository source as required by the LEP document for the T2 Intellectual Foundation Component. Deb explained the issue; i.e., that lack of a clear definition as to what constitutes the expository source has been holding up discussions in UWIC. Jim provided brief historical background regarding where the idea for the text originated stating that the original intention was that faculty utilize sources in addition to text books. A brief discussion followed. Time did not permit any definitive decisions.

Meeting adjourned at 4:45.