Liberal Education Program Committee Meeting
Wednesday, February 22, 2012
3:25–4:45pm – ASC 308
Meeting Minutes
Present: Nicole Henderson, Kim Laing, Deb Weiss (Chair), Rich Kustin, Elsie Okobi, Wes O’Brien, Elliott Horch, Polly Beals, Wendy Hardenberg (Recording), Liz Keenan, Joe Fields

- Meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m.
- Minutes of 2/15/12 meeting were approved.

- Announcements
  - Polly announced that Shirley Jackson and Winnie Yu are bringing in a speaker on Friday, March 2nd, who will talk about civic engagement in the curriculum, which could be useful for people developing their Tier 3 capstones (civic engagement being one of the Discussions of Values, which Tier 3 is supposed to emphasize). This summer, Davis Foundation money will also be used to create additional new LEP courses. Polly will make both of these announcements at UCF tomorrow as well.
  - Deb wanted the LEPC to know that the MCAT has added, effective 2015, social and behavioral sciences testing as well as a section on critical analysis and reasoning skills, all of which fit well with our LEP curriculum.
  - Polly also announced that if anyone is available on April 13th, it would be great to have LEPC members visit Gateway Community College.

- Old Business
  - Transfer courses that do not reasonably align to any SCSU course fulfilling the LEP category (per request by Lauren Doninger)
    - How will we go about assigning LEP status to such a course?
      1. There are two scenarios here: students can come to us individually with whatever courses they’ve taken, but local community colleges can also approach us with lists of courses to approve for the transfer bank.
      2. There was some trepidation about community college courses meeting the very high standards we have set for ourselves. It was suggested that the community colleges themselves could tell us how they think their courses meet our requirements, rather than our having to decide that on our own. For Gateway in particular, we could work together to make sure learning outcomes align, and for Tier 2 courses, the LEP director and Affinity Group coordinators could review them.
      3. It was noted that all of this must occur behind the scenes as far the transfer students are concerned, so they’re not forced to run around or wait excessively. It will also be important to check on how transfer students from community colleges are doing once they get to Southern. The Transfer Taskforce did
find that transfer students end up on academic probation more often than other students.

4. The original request from Lauren Doninger hinged on the competency-based nature of the LEP, which does imply that there need not be a one-to-one course correspondence.

5. Although we can delay a little bit longer while the Board of Regents and the legislature hammer things out, we should have a mechanism in place by the end of the semester by which students can transfer unaligned LEP courses.

- Motion: The LEPC moves that transfer equivalency requests submitted by institutions involving courses that do not reasonably align with any SCSU course, but appear to fulfill an LEP category, be reviewed for suitability by the LEP Director; should the course be deemed suitable, it will be forwarded to UWIC for decision.
  
  Motion passed unanimously.

- Proposed Motion: The LEPC moves that transfer equivalency requests submitted by entering transfer students involving courses that do not reasonably align with any SCSU course, but appear to fulfill an LEP category, be reviewed for suitability by the LEP Director in consultation with the LEPC Chairperson or his/her designee.
  
  Work on this motion will continue at the next meeting.

  o New Business
    • Review and approval of Revised Tier 1 form
      • Revised Tier 1 form was approved unanimously.

  o Meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

~Wendy Hardenberg