Liberal Education Program Committee Meeting

Wednesday, February 29, 2012, 3:25–4:45pm – ASC 308

Meeting Minutes

Present: Polly Beals, Liz Keenan, Deb Weiss (Chair), Armen Marsoobian, Elliott Horch, John DaPonte, Wendy Hardenberg (Recording), Joe Fields

- Meeting was called to order at 3:32 p.m.

- Minutes of the 2/22/12 meeting were approved.

- Announcements
  - Deb and Polly have scheduled a meeting with the Psychology Department to discuss some of their LEP issues.
  - Jim Tait, an LEPC member, is giving a PaCE seminar on Friday, March 2nd, 1:05-1:55 p.m., in EN C 112.

- Old Business
  - Unaligned transfer courses – individually by student – discussion continued
    - Motion: The LEPC moves that transfer equivalency requests submitted by 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 as needed.
      Motion passed unanimously.

- New Business

  - Tier 3 Capstone Courses – The LEP Document states that "Departments may create a Tier 3 course for their majors, provided that all requirements for a Tier 3 course are addressed."

  The LEPC discussed how to handle the credits for Tier 3 courses that are specifically designed for particular majors (as described above). The consensus of the committee was that the credits for these courses should go into the LEP in order to fulfill the 3 credit Tier 3 requirement (as opposed to 3 credits in the Department's major). If the department currently has a capstone course that will either be modified to meet the Tier 3 requirements or designs a new course in lieu of the previous course, the department will need to submit a program modification in order to remove the 3 credits from the major.
Summary: Any Tier 3 course must be taken as part of the LEP.

Since the above did not contradict the LEP document, no motion was made.

The committee wishes to clarify the following points for the UCF:

- LEP Tier 3 allows for courses that are open to all students as well as courses that are open only to specific majors or to students who have met prerequisites beyond the minimum Tier 3 requirements (from LEP document, page 13: “All Tier 1 courses and 7 of the 9 Tier 2 courses must be completed before taking the Tier 3 capstone”). Some examples (non-exhaustive) appear below:
  - Example 1 – XXX Department offers a Tier 3 capstone course open to all students who have completed Tier 1 courses and 7 of the Tier 2 courses.
  - Example 2 – XXX Department currently has a department-specific capstone course in its major. The department feels that it can meet the Tier 3 criteria after revision. The course is revised (course revision paperwork), the program is revised (program revision paperwork) and the LEP Tier 3 form is completed and all are submitted to the UCF.
  - Example 3 – XXX Department currently either does not have a department-specific capstone or has a capstone that cannot reasonably be revised to meet Tier 3 criteria. Department designs course that meets criteria and completes new course proposal form, LEP Tier 3 form and program revision paperwork, if needed.

- Given the Tier 3 requirements (above), departments may wish to consider revising or creating a course that is at a junior level (rather than a senior level capstone course) in order to enable students to fulfill the Tier 3 capstone course earlier in the program. The department could then leave the department-specific capstone course intact within the department. Several departments have discovered that their capstone courses do not align very well with the Tier 3 requirements and that other courses may have better alignment.

- A department may require that its majors take a particular Tier 3 capstone course. This may be a course that is taught by the department itself or by another department.

Meeting adjourned at 4:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

~Wendy Hardenberg
Motion from 2/22/12
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 from 2/29/12
Motion: The LEPC moves that transfer equivalency requests submitted by 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 as needed.

For Discussion from 2/29/12 meeting

LEP Tier 3 allows for courses that are open to all students as well as courses that are open only to specific majors or to students who have met prerequisites beyond the minimum Tier 3 requirements (from LEP document, page 13: “All Tier 1 courses and 7 of the 9 Tier 2 courses must be completed before taking the Tier 3 capstone”). Some examples (non-exhaustive) appear below:

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