Liberal Education Program Committee Meeting  
Wednesday, April 25, 2012  
3:25– 4:45pm – ASC 308  
Meeting Minutes  

- Meeting was called to order at 3:32 p.m.  
- Minutes of the 4/18/12 meeting were approved with one abstention.  
- Committee and Ad Hoc reports – none  
- Old Business  
  
  Continuation of discussion on allowing one Tier 2 course in first semester of freshman year  

Report by Elliott Horch on statistics (sent separately)  

- Ultimately there was not much difference between the grades first-year students received in Fall 2011 in Tier 1 courses (once INQ 101 grades were removed, since these were higher), Tier 2 courses, and non-LEP courses  
- Some more information and longitudinal study could help us decide what that means (e.g. follow individual students into Spring 2012, check on SAT scores, etc.)  
- We would like to be able to say with some certainty that it is not harmful for students to take a Tier 2 course in the first semester before we decide they can on a permanent basis  
- The departments who want their students to take certain Tier 2 courses right away also need to be considered  
- The decision should be made based on pedagogy, not scheduling—it would be better to make Tier 2 courses in the first semester conditional on something like SAT scores so that better-prepared students can be moved ahead without hurting the still-developing students (students not in any developmental courses might be the best candidates)  
- Perhaps at the end of next fall we can get data correlated with SAT scores to see if our hypothesis is correct  
- The issue will be revisited by the committee in the fall with more data  

- New Business  

  - Assessment  
    - Competencies and embedded competencies  
      - Wendy will create a draft of a plan for how to embed the Information Literacy competency and assess it [see agenda for 5/2/12]  
      - Discussion centered on questions of whether there is room in the courses (Critical Thinking especially) for the outlined activities, whether there should be information literacy classes available outside of class time, and whether courses that check off the “Information Literacy” box should be tracked somehow
- Wendy will work with the INQ/CT learning communities this fall to pilot her plan and develop a model that other learning communities could use
- Wendy will also ask her colleagues whether additional library resources would be required to put the plan into action

• Meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
~Wendy Hardenberg