Liberal Education Program Committee Meeting

Wednesday, March 13, 2013

3:00– 4:45pm – ASC 201

Meeting Minutes

Present: Nicole Henderson, Monica Raffone, Polly Beals, Wendy Hardenberg (recording), Joe Fields, Wes O’Brien, Dave Petroski, Deb Weiss (chair), Elliott Horch, Liz Keenan, Mike Shea

- Meeting was called to order at 3:10 p.m.
- Minutes of 2/27/13 were approved unanimously.
- Announcements
  - Expedited Tier 3 courses that are approved will go into the LEPC minutes
  - Courses that have been approved are:
    - WLL 403: Second Language Acquisition
    - MDS 294: TV and Political Satire
    - ANT 470: Ethnographic Research Methods
- New Business
  - Discussion of issues that have arisen for students who take MAT 095 or ENG 110-
    Nicole Henderson, Monica Raffone, Registrar’s Office, guest
    - It is frequently difficult to construct schedules for first semester freshmen
      who take MAT 095 and/or ENG 110 since they are not allowed to take
      Tier 2 courses in the first semester
    - 647 students last year placed into MAT 095 based upon Math SAT scores.
      Of these students, 468 had over a 2.0 after their first semester
      demonstrating that the majority of these students are successful.
    - Since some introductory courses to majors are in Tier 2, this restriction
      precludes these students from beginning their majors in the first
      semester.
    - MAT 095 may not be an accurate predictor of student-ability to achieve
      academically or be successful with a Tier 2 course in the first semester.
    - Statistics that the LPEC considered previously indicated that students are
      no less successful in Tier 2 courses than they are in Tier 1 courses.

Motion: Students shall be allowed to take one Tier 2 course in their first
semester.
4 in favor; 2 opposed — Motion passed
The LEP document will be revised accordingly.

- Scheduling for students who fail either CT or INQ in first semester
  - Most students who fail one or both of these courses end up in Tier 2 their second semester because of scheduling constraints.
  - Nicole suggested that instead of the Tier 2 restriction, students who fail one or both of those courses might be provided with a mandatory academic coach.
  - Liz suggested that instead of the Tier 2 restriction we might require that they take INQ 101 and CT again
  - Is the current restriction helping the students to better succeed?
  - The dilemma is one of expediency vs. keeping unready students from advancing.
  - Could some of these issues be instructor-specific?
  - Discussion to continue at next meeting

Meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.