Liberal Education Program Committee Meeting

Wednesday, November 20, 2014

9:35-10:50 – ASC 208

Special Meeting Minutes

Present: Beena Acchpal, Yilma Gebramariam, Wendy Hardenberg, Deb Weiss (recording), Cindy Simoneau, Polly Beals (chairing), Mike Shea, David Petroski, Joe Fields, Wes O’Brien, Liz Keenan, Sinam Doughman

- Call to Order: 9:40am

- LEPC Director Report

  - Wes has been given access to TES databank that will allow him to substitute courses for students on one time basis or place the courses in a data bank indicating the course is accepted for all students.
  - A general meeting has been scheduled for Tier 3 instructors for this semester. An attempt will be made to schedule a meeting for the Tier 2 instructors as well.
  - Media studies faculty have volunteered to look critically at the LEPC website. Armen Marsoobian has planned for assessment for Critical Thinking to occur this semester after the CT courses are completed in addition to the CT/written communication assessment that will occur campus-wide at the sophomore level in spring 2015. Armen informed Wes that he will be on sabbatical during the spring semester and that Rex Gilliland will fill in as chair of the CT Committee.

- Old Business

  1) Super sections

  Motion - In order to ensure student success and retention, it is moved that Tier 2 super section classes (more than 40 students) be restricted to sophomore level students and above and that students be allowed to take no more than two super section classes to fulfill their Tier 2 requirements.

  - Various points were raised including
    - Classroom availability may influence how many super section classes can be run so this may be self-limiting however potentially a large number of super section classes can be scheduled even with the current resources.
    - There should be no super sections.
o Rather than restrict students, consider a motion in which no more than a certain percentage of the classes can be super sections; this may be problematic in that freshmen register late and typically the classes that are available are the larger courses.

o Concerns were expressed about limiting student options; however exceptions can be made whereby a student could be given permission to exceed the limit with justification.

o The goal would be to “put out the fire” given the continuous increase in the number of super section courses that has been occurring and the increase that is planned for the fall.

**Motion was approved with 6 members in favor, 2 opposed**

Motion - All super section classes will have accompanying recitation sections. Administration will provide the resources to accomplish this.

**Motion was approved unanimously**

o New Business
  - World language requirement
  - Revisit LEP document wording that encourages that the chair of the CT affinity group be from the Philosophy Department
  - Discuss issue of supersections in Tiers 1 & 3

o Adjournment: 10:55