Liberal Education Program Committee Meeting

Thursday, February 26, 2015
9:35 – 10:50 – ASC 308

Meeting Minutes

Present: Polly Beals (chair), Jim Tait, Greg Paveza, Yan Searcy, Bette Bergeron, Mike Shea, Steven Breese, Rick Riccardi, Marianne Kennedy, Yilma Gebremariam, Siham Doughman, Joe Fields, Stephen Hegedus, Ellen Durnin, Sandy Bulmer, Nicole Henderson, Wes O’Brien, Deb Weiss, Dave Petroski, Debbie Carroll, Elena Schmitt

- Call to Order: 9:36 a.m.

- Conversation with the Provost and Deans
  - Transfer agreements from community colleges to CSU’s
    - TAP and Pathways
    - SCSU and Gateway transfer for GWCC-LAS AA degree holders: new positive feeling about Southern at Gateway
    - Possibility of similar agreements with Housatonic CC and Middlesex CC. Will ease in CC to CSU transfer have unintended consequences of driving students away? Many points made to the contrary.
  - LEP’s competency-based structure might help add flexibility for thinking beyond strict course correspondence/equivalency
  - Data collection on class size
  - How community college student needs and degrees diverge from (and at times parallel) CSU’s
    - Work being done with K-12 schools on college readiness
    - Critical role of many adjuncts teaching at both CC’s and CSU’s in student recruitment of transfer students
    - Efficacy of FYE and learning communities for student retention
  - Provost Bergeron concluded that she has been hearing some exciting ideas from faculty about flexibility and options and competencies, so there are ways to maintain the integrity of the LEP framework while still providing more options for students

- Adjournment: 10:54 a.m.