Liberal Education Program Committee Meeting

Thursday, March 12, 2015

9:35 – 10:50 – ASC 308

Meeting Minutes

Present: Beena Acchpal, Polly Beals (chair), Wes O’Brien, Deb Weiss, Wendy Hardenberg (recording), Mike Shea, Dave Petroski, Nicole Henderson

o Call to Order: 9:41 a.m.

Committee and Ad Hoc reports: LEP Director Wes O’Brien

• Finalized rubric for joint assessment of WC and CT, which will happen shortly after the end of the semester.
  1. Will assessment students who have completed at least 5 Tier 2 courses. Instructors with large numbers of students who meet the criteria will collect course essays/papers (anonymous).
• Meeting after spring break with NMC about revising LEP forms.
• Revising LEP webpage little by little; looking to create a new student-facing page

Old Business: LEP Year 4 discussions regarding program credit load

o Need to keep 30-credit TAP Framework intact.
  o Pros and cons to have students select two out of the four non-TAP Tier 2 Areas (American Experience, Creative Drive, Global Awareness, Mind&Body)
    ▪ Complicated for students in majors with restrictions in Tier 2 (such as Education, Business, Nursing, and others), although may be offset if there’s more room for electives
    ▪ Creative Drive is a different sort of course that we may want all students to be able to experience; leave it as a requirement?
    ▪ Any changes should be equally burdensome for everyone rather than targeting certain groups of majors or LEP areas
    ▪ Could Tier 3 be part of credit reduction plans, too?
    ▪ There two different ways departments are going to be affected—one is about the majors, and one is about course offerings, but we
    ▪ Consider how to count competencies rather than specific courses, a worthy but very complicated aim
Pros and cons to reduce Multilingual Communication (a non-TAP Tier 1 area) requirement from 200 to 101 level

- Our current requirement may be educationally sound but some student constituencies find it prohibitive; community college advisors say students may go elsewhere to avoid it
- Alternative to language classes such as Global Awareness?
- The administration needs to explain clearly why what we’re doing with the LEP is important

Agreed on goal to have a faculty-wide discussion of LEP credit reduction this semester, with some proposals to debate and consider.

- Adjournment: 10:55 a.m.