Liberal Education Program Committee  
Thursday, April 6, 2017--- ASC 308
Minutes

Present: Polly Beals (acting chair), Mike Shea, Nicole Henderson, Resha Cardone, Robert Page, David Pettigrew, Wendy Hardenberg (recording)

Call to Order: 9:40 a.m.

Announcements:
• Big meeting with President yesterday, followed by AAUP All-Faculty Meeting
  - The probable consolidation of the Community Colleges will almost certainly mean a common curriculum down the line

New Business
• David Pettigrew’s proposal for pilot critical thinking/writing linked classes (see written proposal as well)
  - Instead of INQ/CT pairing
  - Effort to support students’ academic writing (argumentative essay)
  - Theory is to provide more academic writing at an earlier stage
  - 2-4 classes of students would be in pilot
  - Discussion
    o If this were to run and be successful, would that mean the end goal is to eliminate INQ 101? (DP says no)
    o Skills and advising in INQ 101 are essential to our current and future students
    o We do need to look at writing in the first semester, but FYE is already working on two significant projects with regard to this (FYRE and TAP outcomes)
    o Research shows smaller pieces of writing building to a larger one is better than simply doing repeated academic essays
    o FYE and ENG 112 have established assessment plans for Fall 2017
    o Concern about starting a pilot that would interfere with current FYE plans
    o Could the problem be less in the first year, and more after that? When things are not being reinforced?
    o There’s also the issue of our large transfer student population—nothing we do in the first year can help students who come to us as sophomores
    o FYRE seems likely to start solving some of the issues raised by this pilot proposal
There is also the problem that the LEP has not been fully implemented the way it was envisioned

- Can't necessarily expect the system to be so good that we won't have to help students who are behind

- Students are also not necessarily accurate reporters of what goes on in other courses

- Would like to see assessment data from CT and discuss CT issues with coordinator (Armen Marsoobian) before going ahead with this pilot

- We have a generation of students who resist when they don't understand why and how to do things

- FYE is planning to develop a common vocabulary to teach students and share with the university

  - Cannot vote today due to lack of quorum

Adjournment: 10:50 a.m.