

Liberal Studies Review Committee

Wednesday, March 9, 2011

10:00 a.m. Room 316

Members Present: Rajee Amarasinghe, Nan Barker, Annabel Berroya, Paul Crosbie, James Mullooly, Kim Morin, Robert Powell, Marilyn Shelton, Janell Tatsumura

Guests: Kim Cole, Paulette Fleming, Sandra Lee, Esther Rodriguez, Sandie Woods, Lorri Brown

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m.

Announcements:

- **Fresno State/Community College Liberal Studies Conference.** Janell asked to add this item to the agenda. The conference will be held on March 18, 2011 at the University Dining Hall and will begin at 8:30 in the morning. We have reservations for approximately 130 people and that includes approximately 40 to 50 students. The speakers for the first session will focus on district needs and job availability and three superintendants will speak – Larry Powell, Sarah Koligian, and Mark Johnson.

The second session will focus on being prepared for the classroom and the speakers will be a principal from a local junior high school, a teacher from a local junior high school, and a Fresno State student. The keynote address will be on SB 1440 and Greg Soto from Merced College will present that information to the group. For information SB 1440 is a bill that will require community colleges to offer a guarantee that students after taking 60 transfer credit units they will be admitted to Fresno State. And further students will only need to take 60 units here at Fresno State to graduate with their Bachelor's degree.

The afternoon assembly will be breakout sessions for faculty, counselors, and students.

- **Student Writing Initiative.** Kim announced that this was a coming attraction and an item that the committee might want to include in the SOAP goals. Liberal Studies was front and center at a recent ISWI (Improving Student Writing Initiative) meeting as a misconception was stated that the Liberal Studies major as a whole was not teaching writing. It was pointed out that the Liberal Studies major does have several requirements that address writing, including the Engl 117W course and two Linguistics courses, however students may still need further instruction in basic writing elements such as grammar. The writing initiative will be reviewing the entire system to find where the gap is in teaching writing to the students and the Liberal

Studies major will be part of that process. It was suggested that writing be looked at by the LSRC and possibly included in a future SOAP goal.

- **Richter Award Nominations.** Janell reminded the committee that the nomination information had been sent by e-mail and she will re-send the information for their convenience.

Old Business:

- **Review of Meeting Minutes from 'Special Session' 2/23/11.** Selected faculty members were selected to attend this meeting for a review of technology use in the classroom. The focus was for the faculty to share information, and for the LSRC to find some common areas that could be used to assess the students learning to use technology in the classes they will teach.

The classes represented were COMM 114, CI 100, MATH 100, and IAS 108. Paulette Fleming also attended and added comments on using technology in ART 179. It was found that all of the classes use technology to some degree, however it was found that CI 100 covered all four areas of the standard and the committee agreed that this would be the best classes to use for the assessment requirement.

The student representative, Annabel was asked about her taking the CI 100 course and she agreed that the technology taught had been very interesting and would be very helpful when she teaches.

- **Assessment.** It was then agreed that Kim and Janell would talk with Otto Benavides working with him to identify and cover the specific requirements for assessment on teaching technology to the students. The committee will be sent an abbreviated copy of the assessments from section 9.1, 9.2, 9.3, & 9.4 to review and determine the measures that will be used.

New Business:

- **SOAP Goal #2.** Considering the lengthy discussion regarding the writing requirements, Kim thought this might be the next step. Marilyn Shelton suggested the committee review the remaining SOAP goals to make the determination of the next area. It was agreed that the goals would be brought to the next meeting and reviewed at that time.
- **Ticket-Out.** A committee survey was given to each of those that attended and asked to complete. This was a class project by the attending guest Sandie Woods.

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m. The next meeting will be on 3/23/11 in Room 316.