

Liberal Studies Review Committee

Wednesday, September 7, 2011

10:00 a.m. ED 316

Members Present: Kim Morin, James Mullooly, Susan Schlievert, Bob Powell, Marylyn Shelton, Briannah Evans, Nan Barker, Paul Crosby, Janell Tatsumura, Otto Benavides

Lead Faculty:

Guests: Esther Rodriguez, Pat Christensen

The meeting was called to order at about 10:10 am.

Approval of the Minutes

The meeting minutes were approved.

Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved with the addition of an announcement about the Spring 2011 Conference.

Announcements

1. **Lorri Brown-** Had surgery over the summer and is in recovery.
2. **Lyn Cheek-** Question was raised whether she is retiring from the curriculum library, and if so, whether her position's going to be replaced. Janell will follow up to see if a replacement is already aligned.

Old Business

a) Liberal Studies SOAP- (Goals)

Janell reported that a university team convened over the summer and reviewed all the SOAP plans using a rubric. A report goes back to each reviewed program. Met with Tina Leimer & Sean Fulop. Andrew Lawson asked to review LS SOAP, and Kim and Janell explained liberal studies is redeveloping the SOAP. However, the report came back with a rating of 0, with no SOAP. Kim and Janell explained to the dean that the SOAP is being redeveloped and that due to the fact that the LS program is not simply a department of faculty but rather an interdisciplinary committee reviewing the SOAP, it will be a larger scale process.

Revised technology goal

Standard 8 Diverse Perspectives

b) Third Year Retention Rates and Cohorts

University wide effort. Liberal Studies has one of the highest retention rates. University is only looking at native students. We looked at Learning Communities. For example, a block of courses for a Learning Community of incoming transfers would be hidden during registration period, and then opened up to students during Dog Days. IS 108, NS 115 may be good courses to test it out with. Expected to begin Fall 12. Other courses that would be good to include KINES 152, LING 132, CI 100, SSCI 110, COMM 114. These are required courses.

c) Pearson/Criterion

Title IV grant. Targeting Hispanic students, but open to all. Targeting majors with high degree of Hispanic students, one of which is Liberal Studies. In the grant, they want to do a study to determine whether the Pearson My Writing Lab and Criterion make a difference. Several other courses are using Criterion. The university has 100 licenses to decide how to disperse. Pearson might work well with LING 11. They may also take that course at community college. Kim believes ENGL 117W would be the best determining course. Is there any incentivizing to instructors to use the software? Is there a control group? When do we want to implement this? By Spring 12 at the earliest. Marilyn said she'd like to know more about it. Conesus was that we need to get more info.

d) Connect Liberal Studies with the credential program

In advising, the goal is to help develop a plan to complete the third year, complete degree, move in to credential program. Also a connection with liberal studies faculty would help, and among academic area faculty and school of ed faculty.

How many of the liberal studies graduates go in to credential programs? Currently, approximately 50%, with the other 50% coming from all other majors. There is also a concern about students going to National or Pacific for their credential despite the significantly higher cost.

Exit Survey- conducted by IRAP several years ago of all majors, how many went on to postbacc programs.

Pearson is twice the cost of Criterion. Kim will invite them to the September 21.

Build-a-Teacher Club, student-faculty interaction, all can help connect students with program.

Teaching pedagogy, and understanding the areas of teaching the students are going in to. Faculty from subject areas going in to other subject area courses to build relationships and connections. Liberal Studies is much more challenged due to the broad scope of subject areas- coursework from 22 departments etc. A cohesive curriculum such as a Learning Community cohort would help.

Meeting adjourned at 11:13. Meetings will be 10:00 to 11:00 in the future.