

MINUTES
Liberal Arts Core Committee
December 8, 2006
SIAC Meeting Room, Maucker Union

Present: Maria Basom, Ken Baughman, Jerry Caswell, Cyndi Dunn, Brian Larkin, Siobahn Morgan, Ron O'Meara, Jerry Smith, Donna Vinton

I. Call to Order:

Morgan called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

II Approval of minutes:

Larkin moved to approve the minutes of December 1, 2006, Caswell seconded. Motion passed

III Announcements

- A. Morgan mentioned that Capstone enrollments are up to about 1100 for Spring 2007.
- B. Morgan discussed her meeting with Kamyar Enshayan concerning his proposed course and he decided to not follow the matter any further. He was encouraged to offer the course under the current 820:140 designation, possibly as a special topical version of that course.
- C. The course from David Landis on "Kazakhstan" was turned down as a Non-Western Cultures course by that committee. The Study Abroad office was notified of this as well.
- D. The Head of DTGFS (the department formerly known as "Home Ec.") was very concerned about transfer student credits that qualify for LAC categories, when our own versions of such courses do not qualify for LAC credit. Morgan did pass on to the Head the list of currently transferred LAC courses that aren't "locally" LAC credit. This will likely be discussed at a future CSBS Head's meeting. The committee did discuss the role of the LACC in keeping track of the courses that are transferred in, but that may have to wait until the LACC finishes revising and defining the various elements of the LAC. Dunn mentioned that the LACC may craft some guidelines that the admissions/registrar's office could use in evaluating transfer credits.
- E. The first meeting of the Spring 2007 semester will not be until January 19. The rooms for next semester will be in the Union, but not always the SIAC. People who are lucky enough to use Calendar will get the room/date scheduled for them.

IV Capstone Report

Morgan noted that there was nothing in the Capstone report concerning grades. The group decided that it is not necessary to have the data in the report, but to have it on

hand during the Senate discussion of the Capstone model. Baughman asked about the status of the new Capstone courses if the new model is approved, in particular will those courses have to go through the curriculum approval process. Morgan mentioned that she had discussed this issue with Susan Koch earlier in the semester and that the rules for experimental courses will have to be waived for a while until the entire curriculum approval process is completed. All of the instructors of the new courses were contacted about having their courses approved through the regular curriculum process. Dunn asked about the numbering of the courses and where they “belong” – in which department or college. Morgan did mention this to the instructors as well and has recommended that the instructors and/or departments work it out amongst themselves as to how the courses would be numbered. There are several general number groups, such as 680, 820 and 900.

There was a general discussion about Capstone courses that could be placed within various departments and then that may allow majors to get credit for the Capstone courses applied to their major. This was generally not viewed to be a major problem, since in general there has been a fairly good range of diversity of majors within the courses. There were other questions about who would be able to teach courses, who would approve instructors, who would decide how the courses are staffed, and so on. While this was a good philosophical discussion we had to get back to the topic at hand – the Capstone report.

There was also discussion about the curriculum approval process. The new 010 listed courses would have to be approved by the LACC in the future. The pre-existing courses that were approved for Capstone would be reviewed when the category is approved.

Eventually the discussion got back to the Capstone report, and on approving it. Baughman provided some grammatical corrections to the report which were included into the report.

Smith moved that report be approved, and O’Meara seconded the motion. The motion passed (whew!).

V. Non-Western Cultures Review report

Morgan brought up the fact that the LACC must accept review reports before we can pass them on to the Faculty Senate, and we had not yet done that with the Non-Western Cultures Review. Smith moved that we accept their report, Dunn seconded the motion. Motion passed.

We then tackled the report on the NWC Review. Dunn recommended that some parts may be excluded, in particular the discussion of 100-level versus 000-level. There was also discussion of the community college section of the report and this will need some revision. The LACC can expect a new version of this at the next meeting.

VII. Adjournment:

Dunn moved to adjourn, Larkin seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

Next Meeting – January 19, 2007

Respectfully submitted,
Siobahn Morgan