University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire

University Liberal Education Committee
Monday, December 2, 2013
Council Oak 260, Davies Center


Guests: M. Cassidy, J. Fager, J. Pratt

Presiding: M. Goulet, Chair

Convened: 2:05 PM

Meeting Minutes

1. Approval of minutes of November 25, 2013
   ▪ Deferred to December 9th ULEC meeting, pending distribution of the minutes

2. Discussion of process for considering core applications
   ▪ M. Goulet will be presenting the plan to pilot use of rubrics in assessment of LE courses to Chairs this week
     ▪ M. Goulet has not yet prepared the information about the pilot that he will give to the Chairs; he will, however, prepare it and distribute it in advance of the meeting via email to ULEC members, requests feedback from ULEC members.
   ▪ November 25th motion taken from the table, moved by A. Stombaugh and seconded by W. Miller, to request explicit references to elements in the rubrics from faculty in their applications for Lib Ed course status. If approved, this will have an impact on the instructions for section IV in the Lib Ed application form.
     ▪ Discussion
       ▪ Statements made to the effect that faculty should not be held to the standard of draft rubrics, that some faculty are philosophically questioning use of the rubrics now, that it may be too soon to hold courses accountable to the rubrics because they are not yet finally developed, that courses could reasonably be held accountable to the outcomes but not the rubrics.
       ▪ Statements made to the effect that some faculty are questioning the rubrics but not the outcomes.
       ▪ Statements made to the effect that ULEC should be welcoming, not gatekeepers, and should not adopt an approval/disapproval function; discussion of the functions of ULEC per the Faculty and Academic Staff Rules and Procedure.
       ▪ Statements made to the effect that the Humanities’ learning outcomes are not assessable using rubrics.
       ▪ Statements made to the effect that rubrics help course proposers understand what the outcomes mean, help ULEC members judge how the course might help students achieve the outcomes, and help in the assessment efforts.
       ▪ Motion to amend the main motion – if rubrics (elements) is (are) not adequately addressed in an application then the application will be tabled until spring
         ▪ Motion to amend failed for lack of a second
           ▪ Main motion carried 7-5
           ▪ M. Goulet will craft language to guide course proposers in completing section IV of the Lib Ed application form

3. Consideration of course proposals: ALL DEFERRED
   ▪ Consideration of course proposals/revisions for GE designation
     ▪ DNCE 110
     ▪ DNCE 112
Consideration of course revisions for LE designation
  - ENGL 181
Consideration of new course proposals for LE designation
  - ENGL 281
  - ENPH 115
  - ENPH 150
  - ENV 140
  - ENV 310
  - MUSI 103
  - THEA 224
  - DNCE 101
  - DNCE 110
  - DNCE 112
  - DNCE 310
  - DNCE 312

4. Miscellaneous business – none

Adjourned at: 2:52 PM
Submitted by: C. Brandt
Approved: 12.9.13