University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire

University Liberal Education Committee
Friday, March 29, 2013
Council Oak Room 260, Davies Center


Presiding: M. Goulet

Convened: 12:05 PM

Meeting Minutes

1. Approval of minutes from the meeting on March 15, 2013
   - Motion to approve, seconded, approved as distributed

2. Demo of the College of Arts and Sciences BP Logix Curriculum Forms (M. Cassidy and M. Skarp)
   - Process will be electronic
   - SharePoint site is being created to post finalized, approved forms
   - Once the required criteria is provided by ULEC, can be inserted into form so faculty wanting to be part of the LE Core can submit the form
   - Welcome section first – verbiage
   - Provides a graphic of work flow
     - CAS dean’s office and department review back and forth until both agree the form is done
     - Once form is ready for approval, program curriculum committee chair will approve, department chair, ULEC (S. Forcier), registrar
     - S. Forcier can provide pdfs, create a drive to post them, etc.
   - View of the CAS New Course Proposal Form
     - Enter preparers name (can be anyone)
     - GE Categorization (this section would change)
     - Justification is required, rationale for prereqs
     - Definitions for online, hybrid and web-enhanced courses are provided
     - Applying for GE designation, criteria for le core would be submitted
     - Can click “not applicable” to minimize sections
   - A member of each college (B. Miller, M. Goulet, J. Prushiek, C. Brandt) will meet with M. Cassidy on April 8th to begin the process of creating a draft document for ULEC’s use in reviewing courses which apply to be part of the LE Core

3. LE Framework update
   - The Senate will hold a discussion of the framework on April 9th; everyone is invited to attend
   - The vote on the framework would ideally happen on April 23rd
Discussions continue to occur via email and other avenues

- Critical question was brought up during the all-chairs meeting yesterday:
  Can a course meet more than one learning outcome?
  - APC has been operating under the impression that it can.
  - A new information sheet will be updated on the LE Reform site this afternoon
  - Faculty contributing to the core should include one assignment that matches one outcome, embed within the course rather than just “checking off” boxes
  - Will allow for 27 credits instead of 61
  - Senate and faculty would like an answer from ULEC as to what we are open to, language at this point
  - Multiple learning outcomes which will count as experiences (ex. R1 and K1)
  - APC has encouraged (not required), it’s expected that two outcomes will be met
  - Fear is the foundational piece – foundational knowledge to be built upon by other courses and programs, done within first number of credits, otherwise we’re back to the same model we currently have
  - Strongly encourage ULEC sets a limit to the number of learning outcomes allowable
  - Will have to evaluate if it’s a substantial enough effort in the course for a student to achieve the learning outcome
  - Sense from chairs meeting that they felt like they would be forced to do more, issues with faculty workload while the other side is concerned about the 61 credits
  - Psychology course that would meet three learning outcomes, suggest ULEC creates a guidance policy – state what ULEC encourages
  - Student should only be able to use a course for x number of learning outcomes – registration nightmare?
  - Suggest that a course could meet two learning outcomes, one each from different goals
  - M. Goulet in favor of everything that has been said, his inclination at this point would be to allow the greatest flexibility, trusting that very few courses will be submitted stating they meet 4-5 outcomes (due to workload issues, assessment, etc.)
  - Best guess at this point is that courses need to meet at least one outcome, they could meet two to three, however, it’s not likely that they could meet 4+
  - Should not be an open-ended statement, leaving the door open for interpretation
  - These are our colleagues, can’t imagine faculty submitting a course without speaking to those knowledgeable
  - Think of faculty workload, number of weeks it will take to over one learning outcome
  - Purpose of the motion is to give further knowledge to faculty who are looking for guidelines as to what ULEC will entertain
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- Motion submitted that a course applying to be part of the LE Core should fall in the range of meeting one to three outcomes, seconded, motion withdrawn
- ULEC members can convey the sentiment that at least one learning outcome must be met

Adjourned at: 12:55 PM
Submitted by: S. Forcier
Approved: 4.5.13