University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire
University Liberal Education Committee
Thursday, March 17, 2011 at 3:30 p.m.
Hibbard Penthouse

Present: R. Battalio, R. Knight (guest), D. Mowry, A. Nahm, J. Valero, I. Vogeler.

Presiding: E. Weiher

1. The minutes of February 24, 2011 and March 3, 2011 were approved as submitted.

2. Continuation of LE framework discussion:

   –E. Weiher informed on the joint meeting between ULEC, T3, and Integrative Learning groups. Some issues brought up:
     –Most likely the Senate will not approve a plan this semester, so changes will not make the 2012 Catalog.
     –Need of a timeline; framework should be finalized as soon as possible to bring up and ‘sell’ to departments.
     –Need to make sure that departments are not hurt by the new framework (for example in terms of FTEs).
     –Dean Wood proposed the idea of departmental retreats during the summer to discuss LE changes; funding is being sought.

   –R. Knight announced upcoming faculty development opportunities: Workshop on enhancing student success; advising grants; hybrid course development grants.

   –Need for recertification of GE courses as we move to the integrative learning model.

   –Should the new framework include the requirement of a minimum of upper division credits?

   –Discussion of particular fits within the overall framework:
     –Math is the only “stand-alone” requirement; all others are integrated within the 39 overall credits requirement.
     –Implications of the elimination of the wellness requirement
     –The shape of the writing competency requirement is still in the air
     –Transitions course for freshmen.

   –How to assure within the new framework that there is a distribution through the different main areas (Natural Sciences, Social Sciences, Humanities).

   –Immersion experiences requirement: Only one is perhaps too little?

   –Service learning: Why exclude on-campus activities such as TA-ship, mentoring, etc.?

The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

José Valero