Minutes
University Senate Academic Policies Committee
Volume 48, No. 12
December 13, 2011
Schofield 202


1. Chair Pratt called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm.
2. Minutes from December 6, 2011 were approved as distributed.
3. Liberal Education Learning Goals: History and Terminology for University- and Program-level Discussions
   • B. Knight reported that in 2001, Provost Ron Satz formed a University GE committee that B. Knight chaired. The committee came up with a document regarding student and teacher responsibilities for learning.
   • Many people were subsequently involved with developing 5 Liberal Education Learning Goals, which were influenced by the existing AAC&U documents available at that time.
   • B. Knight discussed the need for programmatic goals and outcomes for the 42 credits of Liberal Education or GE course work. (These 42 credits are referred to in a flexible framework for GE/LE from ULEC.)

4. Liberal Education Program Outcomes: Alignment with LELGs and LELOs
   • APC members were given a revised “General Education Learning Goals and Outcomes” document with 6 learning goals. The document includes Jennifer Fager’s proposed Liberal Education Program Outcomes along with revisions by ULEC. The additional 6th Learning Goal of Integrative Learning is new and is consistent with how AAC&U presents integrative learning separately as its own distinct goal.
   • Considerable discussion ensued regarding the best means of presenting the Liberal Education Learning Goals and Outcomes and a framework for Liberal Education Reform to Senate. Points included:
     ▪ J. Pratt has received at least 3 different models or frameworks from different groups and individuals.
     ▪ APC members given copies of the “LE Reform Framework adopted on April 21, 2011 and approved revisions as of November 11, 2011” from ULEC.
Should be looking at liberal education learning goals and assessment to drive our framework. The models/frameworks must focus on liberal education learning goals.

Perhaps it would be best to present learning goals and outcomes to Senate first for approval; and then bring a framework or model to Senate.

ULEC is focusing on 3 major ideas: Integrative learning; Outcomes based; and number of credits; and then an implementation model.

Suggestion was made that faculty need to come to an agreement regarding what they are not happy about with the current GE system and then they may be more accepting of a change.

How much preparation will Senate members need? Or do committees such as APC and ULEC have to be trusted for having done the research and work to understand the issues associated with liberal education reform?

5. Academic Planning issues

- B. Eierman distributed a handout regarding a consultative visit to UW-Eau Claire by Dr. Terry Rhodes, the Vice President for the Office of Quality, Curriculum and Assessment at AAC&U. APC and Senate members invited to a workshop/discussion with Dr. Rhodes on January 17th. E-mail invitations will be sent out in the near future.

- E. Weiher reported that ULEC will be meeting this week to continue discussions.

6. Upcoming agenda items

- J. Pratt distributed a handout of upcoming APC agenda items (winterim thinking material), including Liberal Education, Program Review, and Authorized Absence.

- Next APC meeting will be on January 30th, 2012.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by
Debra Jansen
Secretary for the Meeting