

MINUTES

University Curriculum Committee for Liberal Education (UCCLE)

February 2, 2011

2:00 - 3:15p.m. - 230 Student Services Building

Present: Sheila Carter-Tod, Carolyn Meier, Elizabeth Fine, Scott Rennekar, Kurt Hoffman, Dan Thorp, Joao Setubal, Alan McDaniel

Guests Present: Karen Strickler

Absent: Brandon Carroll, Ally Hammond, Meir Schneller, Kate McConnell, Mitzi Vernon, Marlene Preston, Rachel Holloway, Cindy Wood, Donna Cassell Ratcliffe, Lisa McNair

1. **CALL TO ORDER** - The meeting was called to order by Sheila Carter-Tod, Chair.

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA** –

A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

3. **CLE AREAS SUBCOMMITTEE**

Recommendations for First Reading –

HNFE 2664, Behavioral Nutrition & Physical Activity, Area 3, Fall 2011.

- Proposal to approve for first reading, HNFE 2664, Behavioral Nutrition & Physical Activity, Area 3, effective Fall 2011.

PPWS 2104, Plants, Genes and People, Area 7, effective, Spring 2011 (revision to existing course).

- Proposal to approve for first reading, PPWS 2104, Plants, Genes and People, Area 7, effective Spring 2011.

Recommendations for Second Reading –

Revisit AHRM 2654, Housing Environments, Area 6, effective Fall 2010 for inclusion in the UCCLE denial for further discussion.

Sheila shared a note she received from Dr. Beamish concerning the denial of the course. The committee discussed the one-hour prerequisite that is limited in terms of possible student enrollment. While the proposal does say that students may take the class with the permission of the instructor, students who may want to take the course and contact the instructor for permission may still lack the required drafting skills needed to take the course. While the course denial is not arbitrary it is perhaps in contrast to prior actions of the committee. Course access is part of the guidelines for a CLE course and has been one of the key items for the committee. After much discussion the committee developed a list of questions for the department. Sheila will send the questions to the department to be addressed.

4. **OTHER BUSINESS** –

Curriculum Reform and the Upcoming CLE workshop –

Dan Thorp updated the committee on the upcoming workshop with Dr. Paul Gaston on February 24th in the Hillcrest Dining Room from 1:00 – 4:30. At this time, 30 books by Dr. Gaston have been sent as people RSVP to the workshop. Dan attended the AAC&U conference recently and he spoke with Dr. Gaston and is planning an agenda for the workshop. Because we do not have much time that afternoon, he has thought of two things to focus on:

- One is how the CLE goals match with the LEAP Learning Outcomes from AAC&U;

- The other thing he would like to work on in the workshop is better integration of the CLE into the majors.

Dan will send an email with a Doodle link to the committee to set a date and time for those interested in helping plan the workshop. He has also just learned that during the summer several offices in Hillcrest will be renovated and that once complete the CLE will have an office in Hillcrest. He will also have a half time staff member that will be shared with another office also to be located in Hillcrest. Dan has submitted a budget to Dr. Wubah and is still waiting to receive feedback.

Members of the committee asked what the role of the committee would be once Dan's office is in place. The exact balance will need to be established. The Process and Policies Subcommittee will work on this and bring suggestions back to the committee.

Dan stated that he has spoken with Dr. Wubah about developing a process for reviewing and removing courses from the CLE that have not been taught in some time span. Dr. Wubah is supportive of this idea. The Graduate School has a policy in place, which we could use as a model. Members asked questions like "If we draft a policy statement what information would it need to contain?" The committee will try to come up with two policies: one on courses not being taught and the other on a possible system of instituting regular evaluations of courses.

Area discussions around LEAP Outcomes Mapping Handout –

Scott Rennekar stated that he had gone through trying to map the LEAP Learning Outcomes with the CLE goals for Area 4 and 5. He noticed that our goals are very specific and are well defined. It will not be a straightforward process. Sheila said that we looked at this in the workshop last year and ran into the same thing. It was mentioned that one of the things we will be doing in the workshop this year is looking at the LEAP Outcomes and how they match up with the goals we currently have in the CLE.

A discussion of the draft of the Undergraduate Strategic Plan, particularly as it relates to the CLE –

Copies of the draft Undergraduate Strategic Plan were distributed and is available online. Elizabeth pointed out the areas of the document that relate to the CLE and are of concern. In particular section Goal 2: Enhance experiential learning

- 2a. Evaluate and revise the Curriculum for Liberal Education to provide individualized student learning opportunities.
- 2b. Develop interdisciplinary degree programs that would provide students with core competencies needed to address global challenges
- 2c. Increases the number and variety of out-of-classroom learning experiences available to students.

The committee discussed the sections of the document related to the CLE and has several concerns. After much discussion it was suggested that Dr. Wubah be invited to the next meeting so the committee can discuss these sections of the draft.

5. ADJOURNMENT -

The meeting adjourned at 3:15p.m.

Submitted by,
Karen W. Strickler
Recording Secretary