

MINUTES
University Curriculum Committee for Liberal Education (UCCLE)
November 15, 2006
8:45 – 9:45 a.m. – 325 Burruss Hall

Members Present: Quinton Nottingham, Jeff Connor, Ron Daniel, Peter Doolittle, Ginney Fowler, Leon Geyer, Phil Radtke, Donna Cassell Ratcliffe, Esti Sheinberg, Cindy Wood

Guests Present: Michael Blackwell, Monique Dufour, Bob Jones, Carolyn Meier, Susanna Rinehart, Bonnie Alberts

Members Absent: Kathy Albright, Clare Dannenberg, David Ford, Elisabeth Klughardt, Neil Hauenstein, Marlene Preston, Bonnie Rosen, Ray VanDyke

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – The meeting was called to order at 8:45 a.m., by Committee Chair Quinton Nottingham.
2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA** – Chair Nottingham indicated that because Ray VanDyke was unable to attend this meeting, that item 6(a), *Office of Assessment Update*, would be removed from the Agenda and added to the December 7, 2006, Agenda. A motion was made and seconded to approve this change and to approve the Agenda. The motion carried.

3. **DISTRIBUTION OF APPROVED MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 18, 2006**

4. **REPORT FROM PROPOSAL REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE** – Chairman Nottingham stated the following proposal will be given to the Proposal Review Committee for First Reading:

- **WOOD 2784/FOR 2784, World Forests and Forest Products, Area 7, effective Spring 2007.**

In the absence of Marlene Preston, Convener for the Proposal Review Group, Monique Dufour and the Proposal Review Group recommended approval of the following course:

- **BC 3115-3116, Building Culture, A History of Construction, Area 2 and Area 6, effective Spring 2007**

After a lengthy discussion, a motion was made and seconded to approve the proposal recommending BC3115-3116, Building Culture, A History of Construction, Area 2 and Area 6, effective Spring 2007, for inclusion into Area 2 and Area 6. The motion carried.

5. **REPORT FROM PLANNING AND DIRECTION SUBCOMMITTEE** – Susanna Rinehart reported that the Planning and Direction Subcommittee (P&D) has held two (2) meetings since the November 15, 2006, UCCLC meeting. Ms. Rinehart praised the work of Bob Jones who presented the original *Student-Defined LE Option at VT Policies and Procedures*, at the September 20, 2006, UCCLC meeting.

Ms. Rinehart requested the approval of the UCCLC to move forward with the *Proposal for the Student-Defined Liberal Education Option at Virginia Tech Proposed Pilot Program*, after reviewing the November 10, 2006, edition of the Program with the Committee.

Concerning the Management Team, Jack Dudley has agreed to serve and Mary Ann Lewis will be asked to serve.

The following is a list of items to be accomplished for the Pilot Program:

- 1) Randomly select approximately 100-150 students from two (2) colleges (College of Science and College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences), with a 3.0 GPA or greater (but not currently in the Honors Program), mainly freshman, with some sophomores.
- 2) Send invitations to selected students and their advisors.
- 3) Select a representative from the UCCLE (or a nominee from the UCCLE) to be part of the Management Team.*
- 4) Select one (1) faculty advisor from each of the two (2) colleges to serve on the Management Team.
- 5) Solicit some 'sample' programs as examples for students to use as guidelines.
- 6) Decide what type of recognition would be given to the student and his/her faculty advisor after completion of the Pilot Program. Recognizing faculty involvement is important as advising is 'key' for its success.
- 7) Clearly define methods for assessment.
- 8) Prepare a concise paragraph which clearly explains the Pilot Program. This paragraph will require UCCLE approval. A 'draft' will be prepared by the next meeting of December 7, 2006. Ms. Rinehart welcomes any suggestions for the summary paragraph.

*Jack Dudley will serve and Mary Ann Lewis will be asked to serve on the Management Team.

There was discussion concerning possible student failure to successfully complete a proposed program. It was agreed that the students must be protected from inappropriately negative consequences to their academic program. There was also discussion concerning the goals of the seven (7) areas of the Curriculum for Liberal Education (CLE) and whether all seven (7) areas would be addressed in the Pilot Program. It was decided that this would be defined by the P&D Subcommittee.

It was suggested that the Deans of the two (2) participating Colleges be informed of the random sampling and be asked to request the cooperation of all faculty. If a faculty member opts out of the Program, another advisor must assure that the department's requirements are met; therefore, requiring another advisor within the department. This 'third' person could be in contact with the student's regular advisor.

The P&D Subcommittee will periodically report its progress to the UCCLE.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

- a. **Office of Assessment Update** – Ray VanDyke
This item was removed until the next meeting of December 7, 2006, as Mr. VanDyke was out of town.
- b. **ViEWS:** Review and Update – Chair Nottingham referred to the CUSP Resolution 2003—04A attached to the Agenda. The Resolution was approved by the University Core Curriculum Committee on February 19, 2004, and after its approval by all required areas of the University, its effective date became effective with the class entering in the fall of 2005. Once a department's ViEWS plan is approved, it then becomes the responsibility of the respective department.

There has been no feedback to the UCCLE concerning the ViEWS requirement. Cindy Wood stated there was a considerable amount of discussion concerning Action #4 in the spring of 2006, which required an approved plan by July 1, 2005, from each department. Chair Nottingham stated approximately eight (8) departments have not reported, and some were sent back for editing and not returned. Chair Nottingham will gather information and report to the UCCLE at the next meeting.

Monique Dufour volunteered to prepare a ViEWS FAQ to send to all Department Heads. She will send a 'draft' of the FAQ to the UCCLE before the next meeting on December 7, 2006.

7. **ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 a.m.

Submitted by: Bonnie Alberts
Recording Secretary for UCCLE