

MINUTES
University Curriculum Committee for Liberal Education (UCCLE)
October 22, 2007, 2:00 p.m., Hillcrest Hall Conference Room

Members Present: Ron Daniel, Clare Dannenburg, David Ford, Lisa McNair, Carolyn Meier, Marlene Preston, Phil Radtke, Susanna Rinehart, Joseph Sirgy, Ray Van Dyke, Alex Weaver, Cindy Wood

Guests Present: Carolyn Rude (for Ginney Fowler) and Bonnie Alberts

Members Absent: Kathryn Albright, Jim Collier, Kelly Fennessy, Ginney Fowler, Leon Geyer, Donna Cassell Ratcliffe, Esti Sheinberg, Bruce Vogelaar

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chair Radtke called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. in the Hillcrest Hall Conference Room.
2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA** – There were no additions or corrections to the October 22, 2007, Agenda. It was approved unanimously.
3. **DISTRIBUTION OF APPROVED MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 17, 2007**
4. **NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION OF UCCLE VICE-CHAIR** – Prior to this meeting, committee member Leon Geyer agreed to be Vice-Chair of the UCCLE for 2007-08. Because he was unable to attend this meeting, the nomination and election of the UCCLE Vice-Chair will take place at the next meeting on November 26, 2007.
5. **WORKING GROUP ASSIGNMENTS** - Cindy Wood asked to be added to the Planning and Direction Working Group. Several UCCLE members are not yet placed on a Working Group. Chair Radtke will contact those members.
6. **PROPOSAL REVIEW**

Recommendation for First Reading – AINS/HUM 1104 – Introduction to American Indian Studies, Area 2, Fall 2008 -

Marlene Preston, on behalf of the Proposal Review working group, proposed that the First Reading for this proposal be waived, given that some lack of institutional clarity exists as to why this course had not already come to UCCLE for approval previously, and that therefore the proposal deserved “fast-track” consideration. A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to waive the First Reading of *AINS/HUM 1104, Introduction to American Indian Studies, Area 2, fall 2008*, (and change its ‘Effective Semester’ from fall 2008 to fall 2007) and to approve the proposal with said change.

7. **PLANNING AND DIRECTION** – Susanna Rinehart reported that the working group met on October 18, 2007. The P&D working group is starting work on two items, one of which was discussed and considered in the 10/18 meeting, and the second of which will be considered in the next working group meeting. The first item was brought to the group by Vice Provost David Ford, on behalf of one of the implementation subcommittees of the *Task Force on Race and the Institution*. One of the curricular recommendations of the task force was that the UCCLE implement a curricular requirement within the CLE on issues of race and privilege. Dr. Ford, Dr. Karen Sanders, and Assistant Professor of English Sheila Carter-Tod (the implementation subcommittee) had met with Susanna, Ray Van Dyke and Terry Wildman in advance of the 10/18 meeting. The Task Force implementation team will gather a group of faculty currently engaged in teaching courses with a central focus on race and privilege to begin the process of defining criteria and desired learning outcomes for a University-wide CLE requirement. The implementation team will then report back to the P&D group, which will in turn report to the UCCLE. In addition, CEUT is considering creating faculty study groups around the pedagogy involved in teaching such classes, after which a piloting of the courses will be implemented in the spring of 2009. Susanna also reported that the SGA had unanimously passed a resolution this past Spring (2007) supporting the inclusion of a more meaningful multicultural/diversity requirement in the CLE, an action which shows student support for the task force’s

recommendation. The second item upcoming for the working group is to plan a process for inviting faculty team-led development of “linked” courses within the CLE.

8. OLD BUSINESS

- a. **Status of Departmental ViEWS Plans** – Chair Radtke reminded the committee of previous discussions regarding the need for helping faculty and students understand the purpose of the ViEWS requirement. He had volunteered last year to head up an ad hoc committee to move on the creation of documents related to the history, and purpose of ViEWS, and Monique Dufour has already drafted an FAQ sheet on ViEWS. That work was somewhat delayed, but is continuing.

Chair Radtke reported there are 10 ViEWS Departmental Plans being reviewed by the Proposal Working Group. Five of the Plans will be reviewed by the end of the month, with the remainder being reviewed two weeks after that.

- b. **Update on Pilot of CLE Student-Defined Experience** – Susanna Rinehart reported that 5 students responded to the invitation to participate, and were very excited by the idea. However, both Susanna and the students concluded that this idea should be put on hold until better structures and mechanisms are in place for supporting the level of flexibility required. Currently, the best model of the student-defined experience is the Honors Program, which does have the infrastructure to support it. Susanna’s recommendation to the UCCLC is that this program be revisited in 3 to 5 years, after other initiatives regarding the CLE are in place. The committee agreed with the assessment.
- c. A question was raised concerning the AFST 1714/SOC 2024 linkage discussion from last month’s UCCLC meeting. Susanna Rinehart stated that she had let Dr. John Ryan, Chair of Sociology, know that he would need to submit a request to the committee that these courses be “un-linked”.

9. **NEW BUSINESS** – Carolyn Rude suggested an agenda item for a future UCCLC meeting be a discussion of the potentially negative impact of budget cuts on the CLE, and undergraduate education and course availability. In discussions among department heads, it has been acknowledged that one of the only ways to make the requested budget cuts is through the elimination of faculty positions. This will, of course, affect the amount of CLE courses offered to an already insufficient list of CLE courses available to the student body. It was suggested that Susanna and Phil discuss this issue at their next Planning and Direction meeting.

10. **ADJOURNMENT** – A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 2:55 p.m.

Submitted by:

Bonnie Alberts
Recording Secretary of the UCCLC