MINUTES

University Curriculum Committee for Liberal Education (UCCLE)
October 7, 2009
2:00 - 3:15 p.m. - 230 Student Services Building

Present: Marlene Preston, Sheila Carter-Tod, Alan McDaniel, Elizabeth Fine, Scott Renneckar, Mary Ann Lewis, Donna Cassell Ratcliffe, Lisa McNair, Jim Collie, Bo Hart, Shane McCarty, Rachel Holloway, Joe Sirgy, Mark Pitt (for Kurt Hoffman)

Guests Present: Karen Strickler, Ray Van Dyke, Carolyn Meier, Laura Dulaney

Absent: Yonsenia White, Daniel Wubah, Leon Geyer (for Cindy Wood)

1. CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order by Marlene Preston, Chair.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

3. CLE AREA SUBCOMMITTEE

   Recommendations for First Reading – The following course proposal(s) were distributed to UCCLE members electronically for review.

   FOR 2114, Ecology of Appalachian Forests, Area 4, effective Spring 2010
   • Proposal to approve for first reading, FOR 2114, Ecology of Appalachian Forests, Area 4, effective Spring 2010.

4. OPERATIONS SUBCOMMITTEES

   ▪ CLE Connections –
     - Faculty survey – Feedback has been provided to Kate in Academic Assessment who has made some adjustments to the survey. We do not know the exact date the survey will be sent out but it should be soon. The sequence is that Dr. Wubah will be sending a letter to advise faculty that the survey will be forthcoming. Then in another email faculty will receive from the CLE it will have information with a link for the survey. There will also be an announcement posted on the Virginia Tech homepage.

     - Student survey – Bo and Shane are our student representatives from the Student Government Association and are very interested in helping the committee. They have about seven survey questions they have been working on and are hoping to get some positive data. Kate will be assisting to review the questions to be sure we have a survey that yields good data from students. Bo and Shane will be helping to get the survey out to students. It is very exciting to have students who are willing and excited about the CLE.

   ▪ UCCLE Membership, Processes, Policies –
     - Resolution to update the UCCLE membership – A copy of the 2007 Resolution to update the UCCLE membership was distributed. It was approved by the membership in the spring of 2007 but apparently never got to CUSP. Marlene distributed a copy of the UCCLE University Council By-Laws, which is the technical membership of the committee. With the 2007 resolution the committee was trying to expand the membership of the group. Another matter being addressed was do we have voting and non-voting members. If you look at the University Council By-Laws and at the Constitution it states that standing members of university committees have voting privileges. The ex-officio members also vote although they can opt not to vote. We often have guest who attend who are non-voting members. According to the University Council By-Laws anyone who is on the membership can vote. More discussion took place concerning the original resolution as to how it should be updated. Marlene asked the subcommittee to work on a revised draft based on the discussions. The subcommittee will bring a revised draft to the full committee for review.
January symposium and recommendations –
Sheila Carter-Tod said the group met and discussed several things such as what we might want the symposium or workshop to be, if we have a speaker who that person might be and identifying a possible date. A handout was distributed with information about a possible speaker named Susan Albertine who is the senior director of LEAP at AAC&U. Space is available at The Inn and CIDER has agreed to coordinate the logistics. A possible date is February 5th and it has been penciled in on the speaker’s schedule. Marlene has talked with Susan Albertine who has worked with redesigning and reinvigorating general education programs at other institutions. She is open to whatever we would like to do and is willing to consult with us. Sheila stated that we do not have concrete information about a budget so we should come up with ideas and cost for what we would like to do and propose those to Dr. Wubah. Several things still need to be decide 1) what it will be called 2) what our goals will be 3) who we will be targeting and toward what outcomes. Sheila said they do not want this to be a situation where it is something that has been done before and nothing comes from it. We have been asked for recommendations about our general education program. It was suggested that perhaps we should look at problem areas. The general consensus is that we are on the right path. Shelia ask anyone with ideas to send them to her concerning a title, goals, etc.

5. OTHER BUSINESS
- Ad Hoc Core Curriculum Steering Committee Final Report 2005 – Marlene ask the committee to look at the document to make sure we are aware of the information. Additional information is on the Scholar site.
- Assessment update – Ray Van Dyke wanted to make sure everyone is aware the survey is almost ready to go out. We are working toward area assessments this year.

6. ADJOURNMENT
The meeting adjourned at 3:10p.m.

Submitted by,
Karen W. Strickler
Recording Secretary