MINUTES

University Curriculum Committee for Liberal Education (UCCLE)
April 6, 2011
2:00 - 3:15 p.m. - 230 Student Services Building

Present: Sheila Carter-Tod, Carolyn Meier, Kurt Hoffman, Dan Thorp, Rachel Holloway, Marlene Preston, Rick Ferraro, Scott Renneckar, Joao Setubal, Elizabeth Fine, Daniel Wubah, Ray Van Dyke, Kate McConnell, Joao Setubal, Elizabeth Fine, Daniel Wubah, Ray Van Dyke, Kate McConnell

Guests Present: Karen Strickler, Bo Hart, Shane McCarty

Absent: Brandon Carroll, Ally Hammond, Meir Schneller, Mitzi Vernon, Cindy Wood, Lisa McNair, Alan McDaniel

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. DISCUSSION OF DRAFT UNDERGRADUATE STRATEGIC PLAN WITH DR. WUBAH –
CLE members had previously reviewed the draft of the Undergraduate Strategic Plan. Today we want to discuss the plan with Dr. Wubah and have a chance to ask questions. One particular area of interest was the junior year mentoring and whether or not students would be paid and if it would be required of students. Dr. Wubah indicated that students would not be paid. Peer mentoring is part of the thematic approach that is supposed to connect students to students and will not be mandatory. Students will be encouraged to participate.

In the spring of the student’s sophomore year there will be workshops for students who may be interested in participating in the junior year. Likewise freshmen will be encouraged to participate in the program as well.

The Undergraduate Strategic Plan has been reviewed by many constituents and received much feedback. Dr. Wubah has not yet decided on how to implement the document. Some of the things in the document are already being done. He also pointed out that is document will be integrated into the Undergraduate Strategic Plan which is currently being worked on.

GOAL 2: Enhance experiential learning
Engage and empower learning experiences that prepare students to be active, creative, knowledgeable, and ethical participants in our globally networked society.

Objectives:
2a. Evaluate and revise the Curriculum for Liberal Education to provide individualized student learning opportunities

Justification
During initial interview with students, one of them provided a valuable insight into a more meaningful and broader education. She said “We need people skills: leadership, how to interview, interact with people, and also things like balancing a checkbook—real life rather than just tests. And we should learn to enjoy learning through the Curriculum for Liberal Education”

Sheila asked what the role of the CLE was with regard to Goal 2: Enhance experiential learning. Dr. Wubah stated that this item came from the task force and was intended to reduce the redundancy.

Betty stated that she had received several comments from faculty concerning the student quote in the justification section in particular related to “balancing a checkbook.” They felt this particular skill was not a Liberal Education skill and that kind of skill should have been learned in high school. Betty ask if another quote might be used. Dr. Wubah said the quote came from the Task Force and he would need to look at it. The quote is telling us a lot. It was suggested that perhaps it could be contextualized. Dr. Wubah said he would take a look at it.

Dr. Wubah was asked about his vision for a CLE office. He indicated that a CLE office is being set up and will be in Hillcrest. It will be a resource for both students and faculty.
4. CLE AREAS SUBCOMMITTEE –

Recommendations for First Reading –

- AAEC 1264, Peace Economics, Area 7, effective Fall 2011.
  - Proposal to approve for first reading, AAEC 1264, Peace Economics, Area 7, effective Fall 2011.

- FR 3314, Intro to Francophone Studies, Area 2, effective Fall 2011.
  - Proposal to approve for first reading, FR 3314, Intro to Francophone Studies, Area 2, effective Fall 2011.

- GEOS 1034, Earth’s Natural Hazards, Area 4 & 7, effective Fall 2011.
  - Proposal to approve for first reading, GEOS 1034, Earth’s Natural Hazards, Area 4 & 7, effective Fall 2011.

- GER 3024, Culture of German Speaking Countries, Area 2, Fall 2011.
  - Proposal to approve for first reading, GER 3024, Culture of German Speaking Countries, Area 2, effective Fall 2011.

Recommendations for Second Reading –

- AHRM 2304, Family Financial Management, effective Area 3, Fall 2011.
  - (Proposal has been withdrawn by the department and will be resubmitted at a later time per email on April 4, 2011.)

Courses approved by Electronic Vote: As a quorum was not present at the March 2, 2011 meeting the following courses proposals were voted on electronically and approved March 25, 2011.

- HNFE 2664, Behavioral Nutrition & Physical Activity, effective Area 3, Fall 2011.
  - Approved by UCCLE electronic vote March 25, 2011.

- PPWS 2104, Plants, Genes and People, Area 7, effective, Spring 2011 (revision to existing course).
  - Approved by UCCLE electronic vote March 25, 2011.

5. OTHER BUSINESS –

- Student Data from Conference Presentation – Shane McCarty and Bo Hart
  Shane and Bo provided a handout to the committee from the student survey, which they recently presented at the AAC&U conference. They briefly went over the handouts. The committee thanked Shane and Bo for all the work they have done on the student survey.

- Processes and Policies Subcommittee – Kurt Hoffman stated that he would send out a copy of a draft policy for removing courses from the CLE. This would need to go through the governance process so it would be best to start the process in the fall. It was suggested the department representatives be contacted to advise them this is going to happen. Kurt asks for feedback on the draft from the committee before the next meeting.

6. ADJOURNMENT -

The meeting adjourned at 3:04 p.m.

Submitted by,
Karen W. Strickler
Recording Secretary