

UNIVERSITY of  
NORTHERN COLORADO



**LIBERAL ARTS COUNCIL**

Below are the minutes from the 21 October 2014 Liberal Arts Council meeting. The next meeting will be held on 4 November 2014 at 3:30 p.m. in the South Hall Conference Room

**MINUTES**

**Attendance:** Trelogan, Smith, Urbach, Reardon, Bentz, Fitzpatrick, Fong, Brothe, Senbet, Martinez, Weber, Graves

**Absent:** Blair, Spahr, Baird, Martin

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 3:30p.m.

**Announcements**

Welcomed Crystal Brothe to the council. She has replaced Ben Varner for the semester.

LEAD100 & 200 course packets will be forthcoming.

**Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of October 7**

The minutes from the October 7<sup>th</sup> meeting were unanimously approved.

**Regular Reports**

Chair's Report (Trelogan): No report.

GE Council Report (Bentz):

November 7<sup>th</sup> is the completion date for gtP review. UNC should expect to hear back a week later. There is an expectation that gtPathways courses are offered every 12 months, but UNC understands it to be every 3 years. UNC has been asked to do an audit of the courses. Bentz will contact the academic departments that are not offering their gtPathways courses every year. State will pass policy making the acceptance or denial of transfer of courses even more stringent, favoring students. The standardizing of the rating of AP credits is forthcoming.

AVP Report (Smith): No report.

Core Curriculum Committee Reports: No report.

**Old Business**

Goals for the academic year (continued discussion from the Council's retreat—tabled at the meeting of September 16)

*MOTION:* Remove item from the table: Fitzpatrick.

*SECOND:* Reardon.

*VOTE:* The motion passed unanimously.

*DISCUSSION:* Fitzpatrick suggested that the LAC needs a mission statement. Smith would like an annual report from the LAC shared with him and the Senate at the end of every academic year, particularly since the council wants to do an assessment of the core. The LAC needs a set of learning outcomes that every core course would have to adhere to. The HLC will give the LAC trouble if learning outcomes are not assessed. Smith is in agreement with Fitzpatrick's suggestion for a mission statement. The LAC should acknowledge its deficiencies and show that they are taking steps to correct this. Fitzpatrick stated that UNC is

about liberal arts, and by its very nature the council plays a part in this mission. The LAC acts on behalf of the faculty, Smith added. It is not an advisory board. Trelogan suggested setting up a sub-committee to begin movement on the assessment process.

*MOTION:* Create a sub-committee for the purpose of drafting a mission statement for the Council and goals derived from the mission statement: Fitzpatrick.

*SECOND:* Martinez.

*FRIENDLY AMENDMENT:* Fong suggested adding in a statement of goals for the LAC. Fitzpatrick accepted the friendly amendment.

*VOTE:* The motion passed unanimously.

Appointees for sub-committee are Smith (convener), Fong, and Graves.

Improving communication with the university community concerning both the requirements of the Core and student/adviser responsibilities (tabled at the meeting of September 16)

*MOTION:* Remove this item from the table and revisit at a later date: Reardon.

*SECOND:* Weber.

*VOTE:* The motion passed unanimously.

### **New Business**

#### **Election of a new Chair**

*NOMINATION:* Weber nominated Fitzpatrick to Chair of LAC

*MOTION:* Close nominations: Reardon.

*SECOND:* Urbach.

*VOTE:* The motion passed unanimously.

*ELECTION:* Appoint Fitzpatrick as the new LAC Chair

*VOTE:* Unanimous approval to make Fitzpatrick the new LAC Chair

Trelogan remains as Vice Chair

### **Good of the Order**

Smith will attempt to fill council vacancies for the next LAC meeting in November. Fong noted that once the assessment process begins, faculty, knowing that their core courses are in danger of being removed from the core, may become more interested in serving on the CCCs. Fitzpatrick wants to know what motivates people to create gtPathways courses. She inquired about what motivates people to offer liberal arts core-oriented courses in general. Also, what motivates people can be internal motivation for the good of the discipline and the university versus external motivation in response to outside forces and the need to survive as departments. Smith suggested that core could remove discipline prefixes and the courses would be listed under the core areas as a means of getting people to propose courses other for enrollment.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 4:57 p.m.

Colleen Fitzpatrick  
Chair  
Tom Trelogan  
Vice-Chair

Abigail Pekar  
Recording Secretary