



LIBERAL ARTS COUNCIL

3 March 2015 – 3:30 p.m.
South Hall Conference Room

MINUTES

Attendance: Fitzpatrick, Fong, Urbach, Baird, Martinez, Bentz, Martin, Senbet
Absent: Smith, Trelogan, Varner, Graves, Weber
Guests: Black, Elkins

1. Meeting called to order at 3:30 p.m.

2. Announcements

- a. Fitzpatrick asked for better UNC representation on the GE Council in Denver. She has already agreed to volunteer.
- b. Fitzpatrick will see about sending an email to faculty referencing the changed language so as to ease the concerns faculty may have.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of February 17th

- a. *MOTION*: Baird
- b. *SECOND*: Martinez
- c. *VOTE*: Minutes were unanimously approved.

4. Regular Reports

- a. **Chair's Report (Fitzpatrick)** - None
- b. **GE Council Report (Bentz)** – The GE Council will write new policy on prior learning assessment. Many state institutions are unhappy with universal CLEP, cut scores, or AP scores. The council is going to work on developing a policy in the next year.
- c. **AVP Report (Smith)** - None
- d. **Core Curriculum Committee Reports (Fong/Baird)** - None

5. New Business

a. HLC Briefing (Black) –

- i. Black shared an HLC FAQ with the Liberal Arts Council. Dr. Kane from Indiana State University will be the assessor during the Tuesday the 10th meeting. Dr. Kane's biography is available on the HLC website.

ii. DISCUSSION –

- 1. Question #12 on the HLC FAQ (What impact has UNC's participation in the HLC Academy for Assessment of Student Learning had on general education at UNC?) raised concerns amongst the council. Elkins explained that the HLC Task Force, etc. have been implemented to create sustainable changes. The

academy is a resource for institutions that want to improve their assessment and facilitate growth.

2. Question #9 (How do you monitor and make sure that approved courses continue meeting your requirements for general education?) raised concerns. The Council is already planning to make strides to meet requirements in general education.
3. Black will forward several documents that hold good information for the council to review beforehand (ex. Matchett's report on adjuncts, senior reviews of UNC). She asked that if nothing else the council review the HLC website.

b. Area 6 Chair (Baird/Elkins) -

i. Who is the Chair of Area 6?

1. *DISCUSSION*: Baird will continue to remain as Convener of Area 6 and on the LAC, but he would like to discontinue this next year.

ii. Student Learning Outcomes for Area 6

1. *DISCUSSION*: Regarding their Area 6 Learning Outcomes Document (see document), Baird and Elkins invited thoughts on improvements from the council. Urbach pointed out that a lot of the assessments can be easily mapped to any discipline. Senbet agreed that their work is a great start. Fitzpatrick mentioned a possible outcome "final exam" where the exam shows that the students acquired the basics for their particular field of study. Urbach asked how the assessment would be tested. Baird explained that it would be as simple as an exam with multiple choices and a few essay questions. In response to Fitzpatrick, Fong mentioned that part of LAC's job is not for the students to keep the knowledge that they gain forever. Fitzpatrick asked when you give a student a set of objective questions where the answer can be "guessed," does that present *real* learning outcomes. Is it valid? Elkins said that there is an expected % that will answer SLO correctly. If this is not met, then that is something to consider. Fitzpatrick asked what measurements are we going to use. And are we testing it in a valid way that proves that they attained that knowledge? Baird suggested that the best way to get these answers is to begin implementing the assessments and learning outcomes. Senbet pointed out that the more students, the more useful the data. The SLO's need to be written broadly enough to be inclusive of all areas. Is it considered wise for every area to have its own SLOs? Council agreed that it is necessary AND required. Baird asked that the council return to this subject at the next meeting. Anyone interested in creating SLO's for their area are encouraged to use Black's mini-grant proposal to formalize the process.
2. Fitzpatrick wants the council well represented at the assessment fair

c. Council nominations/elections and CCC Chair nominations/elections (Deferred)

- d. Discussion of Areas 7 & 8 (what type of courses should be allowed and who is to approve them) (Sharp and Fitzpatrick) (Deferred)
- 6. Old Business**
 - a. Brainstorming (Deferred)
 - b. Council Vacancies and Core Curriculum Committee Vacancies (Deferred)
- 7. Meeting adjourned at 4:58 p.m.**

Colleen Fitzpatrick
Chair

Abigail Pekar
Recording Secretary