

UNIVERSITY of
NORTHERN COLORADO



LIBERAL ARTS COUNCIL

North Hall Conference Room

December 1, 2015

MINUTES

Attendance: Fitzpatrick, Smith, Martinez, Nelson, Markowski, Baird, Bentz, Byrnes, Johnson

Absent: Trelogan, Urbach, Weber, Varner

Guests: Couch, Black

Meeting called to order at 3:30

Announcements

None

Approval of the Minutes from November 17th

Minutes approved

Regular Reports

Chair's Report (Fitzpatrick) – From APC: proposal for posthumous degrees. Students who die within the final semester of their degree will be awarded a posthumous degrees. There will be a set of criteria and procedures that have to be followed in order for a posthumous degree to be granted.

There are faculty who will make a requirement for a class to do something (e.g., field trip) that is scheduled on a specific date outside of regular class meeting times. This is deemed unfair. As well, the date could conflict with the student's schedule.

GE Council Report (Bentz) – Next meeting is on the Monday, December 7th. December 11th is the deadline to get feedback to the state from the F2F reports.

AVP Report (Smith) – UNC is officially part of the CAN.

Core Curriculum Committee Reports - None

New Business

Curriculum Review:

GEOG 295: DISCUSSION: The unit revised the curriculum packet. The course is a 295 study abroad experience. CCC for Area 7 approved the course as-is, but suggested that it be written as a broad course. Couch gave the description of FL 296 (which is an LAC attribute) and it ties in with GEOG 295. Johnson spoke with Foreign Language and they want units to create their own study abroad courses. This course doesn't have a strong cultural component. But should it be an LAC course? It shouldn't be a disciplinary experience if it is an LAC course. The course should be a broad experience to be LAC. The course meets the criteria of area 7, but should the area be more specific with their outcomes and requirements? This course could attract students to Geography, but it seems that it is set up to get core credit for Geography majors. Will this course clog up the LAC review? Is this going to be approved now, only to be unapproved during the future LAC review? Baird thinks the council should look at the course as it is now and not worry

about the future. The course needs to be 298 to offer the course before the fall 2016.

VOTE: Course approved with revisions

ESCI 200 (with lab): *DISCUSSION:* The Area 6 CCC unanimously approved the course. GtP and ratio are not correct but can be easily fixed.

VOTE: Course is approved with edits. Two abstentions.

F2F documents and discussion: Fitzpatrick explained to the council how the F2F, state, and UNC's area competencies, learning outcomes, etc. fit together. Bentz assumed that all faculty that attended F2F are reviewing the drafts. Nelson recommended that the LAC communicate with the areas regarding the F2F before the 12/11 deadline. Martinez agreed that it is worth letting the units know. Byrnes mentioned that there isn't an email list of all faculty who teach LAC, so how does the message get out? Fitzpatrick feels that there has been a good response from faculty at UNC. Area committee should be informed that the F2F results are coming down the line. Bentz suggested that each Chair of the CCC send the documents to their committees. Black is concerned that sending out these documents now without any in-depth context will confuse faculty. Smith agreed. State is imposing a structure b/c they want students to have the same standards across all state institutions. Bentz feels that the results that came out of F2F are sufficient, but if UNC faculty have concerns they need to say so. Smith suggested that faculty pull aside trusted colleagues and ask if the F2F results are going in the right direction. The LAC has to have a campus-wide conversation when the council reviews the core competencies, but it is not as much of an issue at the state level.

Old Business

Syllabus standard update: No report. A meeting has been scheduled.

Institutional data collection: No report. Couch will join the committee. Fitzpatrick will arrange a meeting after finals.

AY 15-16 Goals

Rearranging the core: Postponed until the spring 2016. Fitzpatrick and Bentz suggested putting all LAC review on hold until the council begins reviewing the core, etc.

Area Competencies

Course Reviews

Comments to the Good of the Order

Baird suggested a Sharepoint site or network drive instead of emails for curriculum packets. Pekar will initiate the process over the winter break. Next LAC meeting is January 19th.

Meeting adjourned at 4:49pm

Colleen Fitzpatrick, Chair

Abby Pekar, Recording Secretary