Members Present: Chuck Booth, Ann Higginbotham, Sandy Brooks, Bob Wolf, Carol Williams, Delar Singh
Guest: Marty Levin

2d. First Year Program Update – Marty Levin attended the meeting to update the committee on the First Year Program. Marty reported that research in higher education has been done on the “sophomore slump”. Some schools are focusing on students in their second year, often called “students in transition” – which is after the first year program has ended, but before many of them have chosen a major and have a department to belong to. A variety of issues surrounding LAP 130, which is currently part of the First Year Program, have caused Marty to think about the possibility of offering LAP 130 in the sophomore year instead of spring of the freshman year. (Bridgewater MA State College offers a similar course in the sophomore year, as a model.) It could be spread out with about 25 sections in both fall and spring, and the course number could be changed to a 200 level course. Rules pertaining to transfer students would have to be modified, and the number of credits needed to take the course for incoming students would have to be modified (probably take when you have 24-60 credits.) This idea was floated to the committee with generally a positive reception; it would have to clear FYP, LAPC, Curriculum Committee and Senate to be modified. A projected start date could be for the class entering fall 2009 – so they would take it either fall 2010 or spring 2011. If fewer sections were offered (because there are less sophomore students than freshman), it might be possible to reduce the class size to 18 or 19. One concern would be to make sure the course remains liberal arts focused, and not focused on the major subject area. LAPC will consider the ramifications of the idea to modify LAP 130 further.

1. Review of minutes of 10/20/08 – accepted with corrections with 1 abstention

2. Announcements, Reports and Correspondence

2b. Curriculum Committee – courses that have come from LAPC have been moving through the process; nothing is currently being held up in Curriculum Committee.

2e. Implementation Team:
- Carol, Chuck, and others met with representatives of Tunxis CC regarding a new program they call “new media”. Some of these courses may fit well with our Communications, Literature, Computer Science and/or Graphic Arts courses. ECSU reps thought the Tunxis courses would be a good fit for our curriculum. Tunxis will submit 4 courses on LAC forms to the LAPC to be considered for approval as Tier I and Tier II courses. They are willing to modify the courses as needed to fit the LAC. If approved, they could be part of a transfer compact between Tunxis and ECSU.
- One problem noted is that no one at ECSU is monitoring compliance with the Health and Wellness course requirement in the LAC (requirements in English, Math, and LAP 130 are being monitored by departments, or by FYP in the case of LAP 130.)
- The team is working toward having the right number of seats available to match the needs of the students based on what LAC courses they have already taken.
- It was noted that the LAPC can probably stop giving cross-endorsement of courses for the GER at the 100 and 200 levels, since few students are working under the old GER requirements.

4. Resubmitted courses:

COM 220 – approved (Higginbotham; Wolf)

New Business

7. Tech SETT – they are still doing make-ups and analyzing the results.

Adjourn (Singh; Wolf)
Minutes respectfully submitted by Sandy Brooks, 10/30/08
Approved 11/3/08