Members Present: Chuck Booth, Richard Jones-Bamman, David Stoloff, Ann Higginbotham, Sandy Brooks, Carol Williams, Delar Singh
Guest: Hari Koirala

6. Results of CLA exam – Hari Koirala, University Assessment Coordinator, brought the committee information about the Collegiate Learning Assessment (CLA) test. This is a required aspect of the upcoming NEASC accreditation process. It measures higher order thinking skills, such as critical thinking, analytic reasoning, problem solving, and written communication. 100 first-year first-time students had to take the test by 10/30/08 for it to be valid; getting enough volunteers was a tremendous struggle, but 106 students did take the test by the deadline. In the spring, 100 seniors will take the test. Details about scoring and use of the analysis were discussed. The CLA ties in with assessment of critical thinking skills, which is one of the integrated elements of the LAC.

1. Review of minutes of 10/27/08 – accepted (Singh; Higginbotham) with 1 abstention

2. Announcements, Reports and Correspondence

2c. Academic Affairs Committee – Ann reported that the AAC looked at the issue of too many “embedded” credits in some minor programs – where prerequisites to courses in the minor effectively increase the number of credits beyond what is listed for a minor. AAC will make a recommendation that something be put in the catalog to alert students to these additional credits. AAC also considered the issue of the ban on 4 credit courses – see #8 below.

8. CSU policy on new 4-credit courses: Academic Affairs position statement

AAC discussed a statement regarding the “no new 4-credit courses” policy. LAPC approved the following motion:

“The LAPC supports the statement from the AAC regarding the need to allow some 4-credit courses to be approved if based on curricular needs.” (Singh; Jones-Bamman)

9. Pre-requisites on LAC courses:

It has come to the committee’s attention that at least 2 courses have been approved for the LAC with pre-requisites in place. Pre-requisites are not allowed in the LAC. Chuck will let the department that sponsors these courses (English) know that the pre-requisites need to be dropped if the courses are to remain in the LAC.

New Business

4. Review of newly submitted courses:

PSY 206 – temporary approval for Spring 2009 only (Singh; Higginbotham)

EES 207 – temporary approval for Spring 2009 only (Singh; Jones-Bamman)

Adjourn (Singh; Booth)
Minutes respectfully submitted by Sandy Brooks, 11/4/08
Approved 11/10/08