Liberal Arts Program Committee
Minutes
23 May 2006

Members Present: Chuck Booth, Hope Cook, Maggie Martin, Delar Singh, Carol Williams, Bob Wolf

1. Review and acceptance of draft minutes of 8 May 2006, with addition of Carol Williams in list of members present (Booth, Singh).

Old Business

2. Implementation plans
   a. Review of Tier I Course Forms
      Proposed course forms were reviewed and further edited. Additional questions were added regarding linking the course to the GER and the date of submission. The proposed Curriculum Committee (CC) forms were reviewed. The LAPC requested that all courses to be submitted to the LAPC be submitted as new courses to the CC. The sample Tier I Natural Sciences submission was reviewed and clarified to insure that it serves as an appropriate model.

      It was agreed that there may be extraordinary circumstances in which some categories of tier outcomes may not be addressed by particular courses. Catherine Carlson raised a concern that oral communication outcomes may not be achieved by an on-line earth science course. Instructions for recording a “Not Applicable” response in the emphasis column was added and faculty will be requested to submit a rationale for this exclusion.

   b. Tier II Development
      Courses in Tier II need to be developed very soon. The Health and Wellness and Applied Information Technology areas are of particular importance. Faculty development, for full and part-time faculty is critical to insure student learning. CEE has been asked to work with us in this regard.

   c. LAPC Policies
      Policies regarding waivers and exemptions were discussed. The current policy regarding major’s rights to waive 7 credits of the GER was discussed. There is a need to include “major concentrations” as well to insure equity for BGS students. The waiver is based on a substantial duplication of the material in the category through the student’s learning in the major. A suggestion to link the waiver to specific major courses was discussed, as this may make it easier to link the waiver to the student’s academic record and to insure that the student’s learning will be recognized even if he/she changes majors.

      An additional current policy which allows majors to require courses in the GER, and to permit these courses to be counted for the major (if the course does not have the same disciplinary designation) and the core was discussed. A number of questions were raised about this including the nature of cross-listed courses and interdisciplinary majors and minors. Proposals were discussed which included limiting all waivers and substitutions to 7 credits and requiring that all students take at least 40 credits in the liberal arts core. No decision was reached on this policy.

3. Federal Grant (FIPSE)
   David Pellegrini has volunteered to develop concepts and text for the FIPSE grant to support faculty development at the Tier II level. The final announcement of the grant program is likely to be announced this week, with the final proposal due at the end of June.

4. Summer Meetings
   The Committee agreed to meet on Friday, May 25 but will not meet during the summer. Some members will engage in special projects or act as liaisons to administrators, staff or committees during this time.
New Business
   No new business was conducted.

Next Meeting: 25 May 2006

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Maggie Martin, Chair