

UCC meeting minutes for February 15, 2013

The meeting was begun at 12 noon and Kathy Malanga, Jean Levitan, Bob McCallum, Carol Granoff, John Peterman, Giuliana Andropolus, Kate Maerec, Nancy Weiner, John Malindretos, Hideo Watanabe, Peter Griswold, Steve Marcone, Rebecca Baird, and Kara Rabbit were present.

The first order of business was the approval of the Agenda. The co-chair report was given and a discussion was held concerning the size of the council and the review panels. Jean intends to write a report concerning said issue and will explain in her report the process involved. It was mentioned that we need a Director of UCC Assessment for Middle States. Murli will be stepping down as UCC director.

The discussion continued with persons suggesting that people want to be reminded of structure and that consistency is of the number of people is important. It was further stated that we need to encourage faculty participation so that the UCC stay vibrant. It was determined that the minutes of the UCC meeting of January 25, 2013 will be presented at the next UCC meeting for approval.

The upcoming Senate Agenda was mentioned and it was expected that Murli will be present and discuss an assessment plan that will be drafted and perhaps will be submitted to Middle States and may include our recommendations. It was noted that it is important to have faculty confidence in the process. The concept of uniform assessment was discussed and then the committee moved on to the reasoning for assessment for change on some, any, or particular levels thus leading to improvement.

It was mentioned that survey should be discussed in March department meetings and that hopefully an electronic version will soon be available. The survey will contain a written part and will probably be put off until April. The survey will be used by faculty to answer important questions and the concept of putting important questions in exit interviews was suggested as well. It was noted that we will have future discussions about freshman seminar and some course credits being changed. The concept of what to do when a student does not speak English as a first language and they are resisting or having difficulty taking Writing Intensive courses was mentioned. All agreed that they and in some instances, transfer students need support.

Nancy passed out a first draft of a handout concerning Program Outcomes 5 and it was determined that she will continue to refine it so that there will be forms and rubrics under the levels and it will be short and not difficult to work with and will concern 1000 and 2000 level courses and could be connected to some assignment and done at the end of the semester by the faculty with students being rated on student product. Kathy intends to discuss this with the Senate. At this point Kara left the meetings.

At this point the proposed courses were considered and voted upon: Anth 370 (area 5 WI) 15 approvals. Anth 3010 (TI) was approved by 15 votes, Comm 3580 (TI) was approved by 15 pending edits, Env area 5 approved with edits by 14 votes and 1 abstention, Phil Justice Area 4 approved by 15 votes. The meeting ended at 2:03 p.m..