Discovery Committee Minutes, October 24, 2012

Present: Barb White, Michele Holt-Shannon, Alex Eichler, Jing Wang, Rosemary Caron, Kathie Forbes, Dan Beller-McKenna, Brian Chu, Steve Pugh, Sean Moore, Ihab Farag, Wayne Fagerberg (Absent: Tom Safford [votes received via email], Bill Ross, Lisa MacFarlane)

Next meeting: Wednesday, NOVEMBER 7, 2012
Motion: Steve Pugh moved and Jing Wang seconded, approval of the Minutes of the meeting of October 10, 2012.
Vote: 5 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain. **Motion passed**.

The committee took the following action:
The following courses were reviewed, and/or confirmed in the categories/attributes listed:

CHHS
KIN 505 – *Activities, Injuries & Disease in the Larger Society* – BS - **Motion:** To approve for Discovery BS with the stipulation that the faculty revise course materials to be more explicit about how scientific method will be integrated into the course. **Vote:** 6 yes, 1 no, 0 abstain. **Motion passed**.

UNHM
CIS 415 – *Mobile Computing First & for Most* – ETS

Student Petitions
The Committee reviewed three COLA student petitions for academic variance. All three petitions were denied. Kathie Forbes will send letters to the students on behalf of the DC.
(Petitions: ADCOLA100912; NKCOLA101012; CACOLA101112)

The Committee discussed the following:
Discovery/Writing Program Motion for Course Re-Review – The DC reviewed the draft policy Discovery and the Writing Program developed regarding any course being modified for online/short-term delivery being re-submitted for DC review. It was noted that the problem hasn't been the 5-week summer sessions, that this is coming up because of J-Term, and perhaps the compressed course language in the statement should be changed to "less than 5 weeks."
The DC would like to set the precedent that if a course is submitted in a particular format (e.g., traditional classroom) and approved in that format, then it is changed from that format, the DC should review it again. If the DC is continuing to review Discovery courses for quality, it makes sense to know each and every way they are being offered.
What constitutes a change in format is delivery of the course - whether it is traditional face-to-face, blended (online & face-to-face), or entirely online (no face-to-face).
It was noted, too, that the DC does not want to "mandate" training when there are faculty who are capable of conducting trainings on how to teach an online course.
The Community College System of NH has contacted admissions to ask whether UNH will start to look at allowing online labs. The DC will likely have to look at this soon and provide a definitive answer.

Meeting adjourned 1:50pm