

Discovery Committee Minutes, October 30, 2013

Present: Barb White, Amy Cunningham, Dan Beller-McKenna, Sean Moore, Sandhya Shetty, Kathie Forbes, Todd DeMitchell, Bill Ross, Steve Pugh, Jing Wang, William McKernan, Barbaros Celikkol, Stephanie Cheney
Absent: Wayne Fagerberg, PT Vasudevan, Gretchen Bean

Next meeting: Wednesday, November 13, 2013

Motion: Bill Ross moved, Barbaros Celikkol seconded approval of the Minutes of October 16, 2013 meeting.

Vote: 6 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain. **Motion passed.**

The committee took the following action:

There were no courses for review.

The Committee discussed the following:

University Council for Inclusive Excellence and Equity (UCIEE) initiative regarding the Social Identity Attribute -
Todd DeMitchell gave a brief history of the proposed SI (Social Identity) attribute. Previously the Faculty Senate voted it down after the DPAC was unable to reach a consensus on attributes. The door had been left open to revisit in the future and is an ongoing charge of the UCIEE. Concerns were voiced about additional course requirements, however it was noted that there are approximately 70 – 75 Discovery courses that could fit the attribute, in addition to non-Discovery courses, so there would be no additional courses required. There was also concern and discussion regarding whether there would be overlap between the WC requirement and SI. The DC was asked if they would prefer to develop a definition of the attribute or have the University Council working group do so and bring it to the DC for input, etc. The DC wishes to be presented with a definition by the UC working group. Todd asked the DC how they would like to proceed and stated that the council has no “hard and fast” timeline, but would like to move forward in a deliberate fashion. The DC agreed to move forward and continue further discussion on this issue. The UCIEE working group will draft a document to present at a future DC meeting.

“Cap Buster” (inquiry course sections that exceed the maximum allowed students) repeat offender issue-
Barb explained how we have routinely sent out letters to let departments know that they have exceeded the cap on their INQ course. There are currently 2 sections of a course in one department that are over capacity and this particular dept./course is a repeat offender. Questions were asked regarding how these sections end up overbooked and how to address the issue. Comments were made explaining the possibility of advisors sometimes overbooking without faculty knowing. The DC agreed that the course should be put on probation and Barb will draft a letter which will be sent to the Associate Dean of the department’s college, with the department chair on copy.

Goals for Discovery - 2013-2014-

Barb asked the DC to think about continued goals and/or new initiatives for the committee for this year. Two of these will be: continue to work on Social Identity attribute; continue to work on the cognates.

Policy on sharing of Discovery Program policies-

The DC approved of Barb’s request to post all confirmed Discovery Program policies on the program website.

Meeting adjourned at 1:25 pm.

Submitted by Alix Campbell