

## Discovery Committee Minutes, February 29, 2012 - **AMENDED**

**Present:** Barb White, Michele Holt-Shannon, Ihab Farag, Dennis Britton, David Richman, Jessica Fruchtman, Rosemary Caron, Wayne Fagerberg, Jing Wang, Tom Safford, Kathie Forbes, Sean Moore, Ihab Farag (Absent: Steve Pugh, Lisa MacFarlane, Bill Ross)

### Next meeting: Wednesday, February 29, 2012

**Motion:** David Richman moved and Ihab Farag seconded approval of the minutes of the meeting of February 15, 2012.

**Vote:** 5 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain. **Motion passed.**

### **The committee took the following action:**

*The following courses were approved in the categories/attributes listed:*

**Transfer course:** SCIN 117 – *Environmental Science* – ETS (Nashua Community College)

### COLA

LLC 551 – *Comparative Lit: Masterpieces of World Literature I* – HUMA/WI

LLC 552 - *Comparative Lit: Masterpieces of World Literature II* – HUMA/WI

### CHHS

SW 551 – *Human Behavior in Social Development II -SS*

HMP 505 – *Public Health: History and Practice* – HP – The DC voted to approve for category effective this semester for students presently enrolled).

### COLSA

BIOL 444 – *Current Controversial Issues in Biology* – BS/INQ

### **The Committee discussed the following:**

*Draft Policy of Who teaches in INQ in Discovery:* This iteration is based on discussion from the last meeting of Feb 15. The DC agreed that Barb send these guidelines to the Assoc Deans. The colleges can then determine how they would like the information filtered down. We, as the DC, have been charged by the Senate in the best way to guide this program. If any of the deans or departments have issue with the guidelines, the document can come back to the committee for further discussion. We will not micromanage who is teaching an INQ course on a semester-by-semester basis - those are decisions of the departments.

*INQ student outcomes:* David's edits have been incorporated into the list that was discussed at the last meeting of Feb 15. After further discussion, the DC agreed on the outcomes list (please see attached).

*"From the Discovery Classroom:"* Campus Journal is doing a story every other issue on a faculty in a Discovery class and how they are teaching their course. Barb asked DC members to think about who is teaching in their college/department and how they are delivering their Discovery and/or INQ course and suggest that person to Michele.

Wayne will consider whether BIOL would be interested in being highlighted. Understanding inquiry as a scientist is "natural." Using it as a teaching pedagogy is a little different, and it has been a change for all in the BIOL department.

*Discovery Course Clusters:* Amy is working on 5 groups at this time - Social Innovation; Gardening/Horticulture; Art Appreciation; Ethics; and Adventures in Nature. Courses can be listed across groups. For instance, an art history course could fall under both an Ethics and an Art Appreciation and/or Social Innovation topic group. We will discuss these cluster groups further at a future meeting.

*University Dialogue topic for 2012-13:* Michele gave an update on the structure of next year's UD. The UD is one of the ideas being pitched to funders as something that can be funded through a faculty fellowship and/or events, etc. We are thinking of new ways to entice faculty, other than a stipend in the event that we are not able to secure funding. Perhaps through the love of what they do.

**Meeting adjourned 1:30pm**