

Meeting Minutes
INSTRUCTIONAL COUNCIL
Tuesday, April 21, 2009
3:30 pm – Student Center Conference Room A

Present: Laura Brener (Chair), Steve Byman, Scott Dennis, Mike Dugaw, Kristy Enser, Brendan Glaser, Wendy Hall, Kyle Hammon, George Henderson, Jon Kerr, Jeff Lucas, Joyce Niemi (recorder), Tamara Norton, Carmen Robinson, David Rosi, Michael Strayer, Maggie Stuart, Deborah Wöhrmann, Adam Wolfer.

Absent: ASLCC Representative

Laura called the meeting to order at 3:30p.m.

Minutes:

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the March meeting as written. The minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

Old Business:

Review of Degree Requirements:

- ❖ Discussion on the Capstone Requirement continued from the March meeting.
- ❖ Capstone survey discussed:
 - Approximately half of full-time faculty participated.
 - Confirmed what we already knew
 - Need to do more training and orientations on Capstone
 - Faculty do not seem sure if the work involved with Capstone is worth the benefits.
 - More support Capstone than not.
 - Concerns about what components must be included in a Capstone course.
 - Laura stated that standards more important than components included.
 - It was also noted by several Council members that the math component is a stumbling block for many students.
- ❖ Leaves us with the questions: should we retain the Capstone graduation requirement:
- ❖ Should we charge a task force to do a complete analysis on what the Capstone experience should look like?
 - It was agreed to reaffirm Capstone as a requirement for the next academic year while a task force of faculty and administrators can explore all issues and bring a recommendation to Instructional Council.
- ❖ It was suggested that a question concerning the Capstone experience be added to the student exit survey.

New Business:

Credit for Prior Learning:

- ❖ A question concerning our practice of giving credit for prior learning came up as a result of work done by one of the Accreditation standard committees.
 - As a result, we need to do a complete review of our practice/ process and make sure it is all appropriate.
- ❖ Topic will be discussed in more detail at a later date.

Diversity Taskforce Report:

- ❖ Jon reported on the progress of the Diversity taskforce.
 - Dennis Shaw had given the taskforce a historical background.
- ❖ The taskforce makes the recommendation to continue the Diversity requirement.
 - Developed outcomes for Diversity courses.
 - Outcomes should be used as criteria for Diversity courses.
 - Suggestions that the recommendations begin with winter 2010.
- ❖ Each department has a representative that should share this information with their department members.
- ❖ The variety of courses would be retained but the criteria might change
- ❖ A process for looking at current courses should be developed to make sure they meet the criteria.
- ❖ Faculty should have an opportunity to modify their course slightly, if needed, to meet criteria.
- ❖ A survey to determine if our diversity courses are transferring should be taken.
 - Survey the universities that our students transfer the most.

Other:

- ❖ Jon reported that the library gate count is up tremendously from the 2007-08 year.

The meeting adjourned at 4:27 p.m.