

Liberal Studies Committee Notes of Discussion

November 3, 2020, 1:00-2:45 p.m., virtually via zoom

Meeting called by: Jason BeDuhn, Chair

Type of meeting: Liberal Studies Committee

Facilitator: Jason BeDuhn, Chair

Note taker/recorder: Barbara Branton

Voting members: Jason BeDuhn, Bruce Fox, Susan Smiley, Amy Hughes, C. Christina, Toby Hocking, Michael Bolar, Jermaine Martinez, Louise Lockard, James Latham, Vince Caranchini, John Doherty, Kristen Konkel, Shelley Vaughn, Jeannie Copley

Ex-Officio members: Jeff Berglund, Melinda Trembl, Monica Bai, Alana Kuhlman, Sue Pieper, Clarreese Greene, Amy Rushall, Betsy Buford,

Excused voting: Michael Bolar, Alison Conant,

Excused ex-officio: Kim Hensley-Owens, Cody Canning

Agenda and notes of discussion

Topic	Discussion
Welcome/Notes of Discussion	<p>Call to Order: Quorum was present.</p> <p>J. Latham moved, J. Doherty seconded, and the Notes of Discussion for October 20, 2020 meeting were approved.</p>
Consent Agenda/Course review update	<p>Consent agenda items: ENG 120; ENG 179</p> <p>Members discussed both classes before approving the consent agenda. The conversation focused specifically on the purpose statements. Many felt the purpose statements were written more like a course description but also agreed the presented courses would be good additions to the curriculum and did include student learning outcomes. Members were reminded that syllabi need to follow the approved syllabus template and that syllabi are written for two audiences, the students and the faculty committees that will ultimately approve the courses. Members agreed that the courses could come back for review once the new general education program is approved. These were the first courses the committee has reviewed this term and there were also process questions about the syllabi review process.</p> <p>Members approved the courses with one nay vote, no abstentions.</p> <p>There is one course out for review, the committee received two writing courses that didn't meet minimum requirements and were returned and one Capstone is making its way to a subcommittee for review.</p>
Discussion of Teale Foundation/National Humanities Center Cornerstone Project	<p>Chair BeDuhn introduced the topic of applying for a preliminary (planning) grant to support first year education in general education. The focus from the grant is incorporating transformative texts and exposing students to major ground breaking literature. BeDuhn suggested exploring the expansion of this concept to other cultural items beyond literature. Some preliminary conversations have been conducted with the First Year Seminar (smaller classes for first year students, conducted in a seminar style, frequently a topics course) and possibly expanding to the Honor's program. While the December 1 application deadline is of concern, members agreed this was a worth pursuing. Members mentioned specific constituencies</p>

		and administrators/departments to contact to ensure NAU would be willing to provide future funding if the grant was approved by the Teagle Foundation. The grant could be used for in a variety of ways, i.e., development of a pathway as envisioned in the NAU draft general education proposal, or hiring of faculty, or mentoring post-doctoral students to teach the courses. English 105 was mentioned as another place to start, a foundation course that all students must take.
Announcements		
Good of the Order (your opportunity for future agenda items)		A future conversation on improved guidelines for syllabi was suggested. Draft materials can be prepared if given advanced notice.
Adjourn		S. Smiley moved, B. Fox seconded and meeting was adjourned at 2:39pm. The next meeting will be November 17.