Minutes
Core Curriculum Review Committee
23 September 2009
301 Raynor

Present: Acord, Curran, Factor, Foley, LaBelle, Mattox, Monahan (Director), Mynlieff, Peterson, Robinson, Taylor, Zeps.
Absent: Coan, Dunlap, Hudson-Mairet, Schuter, Simenz.

1) The meeting was called to order at 3:34 p.m. An opening reflection was offered by Acord.

2) Minutes of the meeting of 9 September 2009 were reviewed and approved.

3) The results of the Integrated Core Learning Outcomes (ICLO) assessment were introduced by Monahan, with reference to his previously circulated email suggesting possible interpretative values that could be assigned to the results. Discussion followed and consensus seemed to emerge around “option 2,” with 75% and 55% values for “exceeds expectations” and “met expectations,” respectively. Motion made and seconded to adopt these values. Further discussion followed, including the limitations of the assessment instrument and the need to make it mandatory in order to achieve more meaningful results. Faculty question whether students take the present, voluntary, instrument seriously. The question was called and seconded and the original motion passed by a vote of 8 to 2.

4) Junior and Senior Survey results were introduced. Motion made and seconded to approved the “version 1” values. Motion passed unanimously.

5) A paragraph-length text of interpretation of the ICLO assessment results was circulated and discussed. Suggestions included a number of minor changes, the addition of a brief discussion of the CCRC’s decision to adopt a 55% cutoff for scores deemed to have “met expectations,” mention of the “Who Counts” program. The paragraph should make clear that the instrument itself is reliable even if its voluntary implementation leaves the results suspect. The CCRC Director is to revise and circulate the final text for approval by email. Motion made and seconded to approve the amendments discussed. Passed unanimously.

6) The committee discussed “Action Items” to be included in the report, again to be circulated and approved by email. The Director was asked to compile examples of how other institutions are achieving good results in assessing their core curriculum. The gathering of syllabi to insure that Core outcomes are kept in mind when faculty construct their courses is to continue. Further discussion ensued and a good deal of sage advice was offered to the Director. Motion made and seconded to depute the Director to draft and circulate a list based on the previous discussion. Motion called and seconded. Passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:31 p.m.