Discovery Committee Minutes, May 6, 2020

Present (Zoom): Nicky Gullace (chair), Kathrine Aydelott (vice chair), Sajay Arthanat, Norma Bazylinski, Jay Colbert, Andy Colby, Wenjin Cui, Roger Grinde, Lisa MacFarlane, Greg McMahon, Alicia Medros, Dawn Meredith, Subhash Minocha, Sarah Prescott, Amy Oliva
Absent: Hope Anderson

I. Welcome and Announcements
II. Action Items

Minutes
Motion: Dawn Meredith moved and Greg McMahon seconded approval of the minutes of the Apr 22, 2020 meeting. Vote: Yes 9; No 0; Abs 0. Motion passed. Minutes approved.

Course and/or Program Review
UNHM
BSCI 401 – Secret Lives of Whales – BS
Motion: Greg McMahon moved and Dawn Meredith seconded approval of BSCI 401 for BS with stipulation that the syllabus reflect credit for individual work, authored solely by a single student, as well as group work. Vote: Yes 9; No 0; Abs 0. Motion passed. Nicky and Amy will contact the faculty person regarding stipulation and request a revised syllabus. The DC agreed that Nicky determine whether the revised syllabus meets stipulation and give final approval on their behalf.

The DC discussed concerns regarding ASAC’s “blocking” of courses submitted for Discovery designation. Some members stated that these decisions are to be handled “above our pay grade.” Others remarked that this was meant to be the work of UCAPC. It was pointed out that concern regarding Discovery “turf wars” was included in the Faculty Senate charges to the Discovery Review Committee.

Student Petitions
1. Request to allow the equivalent of one year spent living and working in Colombia to fulfill WC.
   Vote: Yes 8; No 0; Abs 1. Petition approved. (rtbceps042820)

2. Request to allow military experience outside of the US to fulfill WC.
   Vote: Yes 0; No 8; Abs 0. Petition denied. Not enough information. (tsbunhm042020)

3. Request to allow UNH course BENG 766 Biomaterials to fulfill BS.
   Vote: Yes 6; No 0; Abs 2. Petition approved. (tebceps050420)

4. Request to allow River Valley CC course HUMA 204 Topics in World Culture to fulfill WC.
   Vote: Yes 9; No 0; Abs 0. Petition approved. (lbmceps042720)

5. Request to allow UNC Asheville course Freshman Colloquium Course: Powerful Stories ARTS 178, to fulfill FPA.
   Vote: Yes 9; No 0; Abs 0. Petition approved. (mpcola042920)

6. Request to allow military experience outside of the US to fulfill WC.
   Vote: Yes 6; No 2; Abs 1. Petition approved. (nosunhm042720)

III. Discussion
Update on Discovery Program Review – The DC briefly discussed the Discovery Review Committee (DRC) open fora held Tues 4/28/20 and Wed 4/29/20, for discussion of the proposed revised Discovery Program, and the concerns raised about the proposal particularly by faculty from Computer Science, UNHM, and professional advisors. Amy is currently collecting post-fora Qualtrics survey responses for the DRC’s review at their next meeting on May 29.

DC Summer Meeting – Nicky asked if members of the DC would be willing to meet once in June, if necessary. All agreed.

Nicky thanked the DC for their service and continued commitment, especially this semester while rapidly adjusting to Covid-19 conditions.

Meeting adjourned 2pm. Submitted by Amy M. Oliva