Discovery Committee Minutes, May 7, 2014 FINAL

Present: Barb White, Amy Cunningham, Todd DeMitchell, Bill Ross, Dan Beller-McKenna, Wayne Fagerberg, Sandhya Shetty, Norma Bazylinski, Sanjeev Jha, Gretchen Bean, Steve Pugh
Absent: PT Vasudevan, Barbaros Celikkol, Dan Carchidi, Sean Moore, William McKernan

The Committee took the following action:

Minutes
Motion: Bill Ross moved and Wayne Fagerberg seconded approval of Minutes of the April 23, 2014 meeting with amendment below. Vote: 5 yes, 0 no, 3 abstain. Motion passed.
Amendment: Bill Ross was listed as in attendance and he was not present.

Course Review
COLA
ANTH 411 – Global Perspectives on the Human Condition: Introduction to Anthropology (online) - Follow-up on course re-review for format. Course confirmed in online format.

Student Petitions
-Senior petitioning for UNHM HIST 595 to fulfill Discovery HP requirement. Student claims they were advised by someone in the UNHM Registrar’s office that this course would fulfill HP. In addition, student’s original advisor was on sabbatical and replacement may have further misadvised. Petition approved due to advising error. (kmunhm050114)

-UNHM Student petitioning for Manchester Community College class, ARTS 110 to fulfill Discovery FPA requirement. Petition approved. (jlunhm042214)

-Student petitioning for E SCI 405 to fulfill Discovery ETS requirement. The course in question was listed as fulfilling the Discovery ETS requirement on the Department of Natural Resources website. Petition approved due to incorrect information provided to students and advisors by department. (amcolsa041414)

-Student petitioning for ARTS 567 to fulfill Discovery FPA requirement. Petition denied. (mscolsa042814)

-Junior re-petitioning for Northeastern University GE1111 to fulfill Discovery ETS requirement. Petition denied (ekceps041014)

-Student petitioning for Latin 605 to fulfill Discovery WC requirement. Student tested out of lower level Latin class which does fulfill WC requirement. Exception made and petition approved. (kmcola041714)

-Student petitioning for HIST 425 to fulfill Discovery HP requirement. Student claims they were misadvised by Honor’s office. Petition denied. (smpc041514)

The Committee discussed the following:
Student Petitions: Norma asked the DC what the process should be for any petitions that come up over the summer. Barb asked the committee if it would be acceptable to request that they look at petitions online, if needed. It was agreed that Norma will forward petitions to Barb who, depending on the petition, will then either make a determination on behalf of the DC or forward the petition(s) to the DC for their review and vote.

Annual Report to Faculty Senate: Barb reported to the DC on the delivery of the Discovery Program Annual Report, and updated the DC on the Senate request to look at how many courses can come forward to Discovery. Barb will follow up with ASAC on this topic.

DC membership: Barb thanked all of the DC members and recognized those whose terms were ending.

Credit hours and compressed or online courses – The DC discussed concerns with compressed or online DISCO courses meeting NEASC/federal guidelines for credit hours. For undergraduates, one credit hour is equivalent to
3 hours work - the expectation is that online courses meet this also. It was discussed as to whether this is the role of Academic Affairs, departments, and colleges, and/or the DC. Barb noted that credit hour standards – particularly for online and compressed courses – will be a future topic of discussion for the DC.

For the next meeting:

-Review of policy for fulfilling World Cultures requirement.

Meeting adjourned at 1:35 pm.
Submitted by Alix Campbell