Discovery Committee Minutes, October 16, 2013

Present: Barb White, Amy Cunningham, Dan Beller-McKenna, Sean Moore, Sandhya Shetty, Kathie Forbes, Todd DeMitchell, Bill Ross, Gretchen Bean, Steve Pugh, Wayne Fagerberg, Jing Wang.
(Absent: Stephanie Cheney, PT Vasudevan, William McKernan, Barbaros Celikkol)

Next meeting: Wednesday October 30, 2013

Motion: Bill Ross moved and Gretchen Bean seconded, approval of the Minutes of October 2, 2013 meeting. Vote: 4 yes, 0 no, 2 abstain. Motion passed.

The committee took the following action:
The following courses were reviewed, and/or confirmed in the categories/attributes listed:

COLA

POLT 547 – Race & Justice in the America’s – WC – Course tabled for review pending additional information at the meeting of Oct 2, 2013.

Motion: Steve Pugh motioned and Sandhya Shetty seconded to table further review of this course pending additional information from faculty person. Vote: yes 6, no 0, 0 abstain. Motion passed. Barb will contact the faculty.

CEPS

ESCI 501 – Intro to Oceanography – INQ – Course tabled for re-review pending additional information at the meetings of September 4, September 18 and October 2, 2013.

Motion: Dan Beller-McKenna motioned Steve Pugh seconded to approve ESCI 501 as a Pilot Inquiry course. This confirmation depends on two essential components: 1) that a training and support program be developed for graduate student teaching assistants in this course, and 2) that an assessment plan be developed to assess how Inquiry criteria are sufficiently addressed. This assessment will be developed in collaboration with the instructors, CETL, and the Discovery Program. The Discovery Committee will re-review this course at the end of 2 years, with a progress report at the end of the first year. Vote: 6 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain. Motion passed. Course approved for INQ Pilot status.

Student petition –
Senior petitioning for HIST 422 and ANTH 610 to fulfill Discovery WC requirement due to faculty advising error. Advisor has taken responsibility for the error. Petition approved. Registrar’s office will notify the student. Barb will also send a letter to student’s faculty advisor and their Department Chair reminding them about the Registrar’s list of Discovery courses for advisors. In addition, a reminder will be sent from Discovery to all academic departments. (jbcolsa092613)

The Committee discussed the following:

Review of re-drafted Inquiry Lab Instructor Training Policy - Motion: Bill Ross motioned and Dan Beller-McKenna seconded to approve policy. Vote: 6 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain. Policy approved.

Parameters regarding TA lab grading -
CETL sent a request to Barb for clarification on the policy regarding TAs grading lab work. The DC discussed INQ grading rubrics for INQ courses. Barb will speak with CETL about the possibility of covering grading INQ labs in the TA/lab instructor training.

Motion: Bill Ross motioned and Dan Beller-McKenna seconded to amend the Inquiry Lab Instructor Training Policy to include student assessment (grading) under Faculty Obligations section. Vote: 7 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain. Motion passed.

Brief update on summer course review
Barb gave the committee a short history on the course review and explained that courses are re-reviewed to make sure that content and quality is being maintained. Amy and Barb have completed many of them and continue to work on the project. They expect by early December to have narrowed down the course list to only courses that need to be looked at more thoroughly by the DC. Committee members agreed to re-review courses over winter break, if needed. Kathie Forbes requested that summer course re-review be completed first.

Meeting adjourned at 1:12 pm.
Submitted by Alix Campbell