

Discovery Committee Minutes, October 20, 2010

Present: Barb White, Wayne Fagerberg, Kathie Forbes, Stephen Pugh, Michele Holt-Shannon, Monica Chiu, Sharyn Potter, Lisa MacFarlane, Christina Caiazzo, David Richman, Heather Barber, David Hiley (Absent: Art Greenberg, Bill Ross)

Next meeting: Wednesday, November 3, 2010

The committee took the following action:

Motion: David Richman moved, Wayne Fagerberg seconded, to approve the minutes of the meetings of September 8, September 15, September 22, and October 6, 2010. **Vote:** 4 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain. Motion passed.

*The following courses were **confirmed** for Discovery in the category/attribute listed:*

CEPS

CHEM 574 – *Intro to Inorganic Chemistry* – INQ

The following courses were held for review at a future meeting:

ESCI 444 – *Philosophy of Earth* – ETS, INQ - **Motion:** David Richman moved, Wayne Fagerberg seconded, to table review of this course pending further information from the faculty person/college. **Vote:** 6 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain. Motion passed.

COLA

THDA 439 – *Intro to Shakespeare in the Theatre* – FPA – This is an online course designed for J-Term. Due to time constraints, this course will be reviewed at the meeting of Nov 3rd.

Community College Transfer courses

SCIN 220 – *Ecology* (Nashua CC) – BS w/lab – The Committee would like to see the syllabus associated with this course in order to review.

BTEC 105 – *Intro to Biotechnology 3-3-4* (Great Bay CC) – BS w/lab – Same as above.

Amy will ask Admissions to request syllabi on the above courses and any other transfer courses submitted for Discovery review, going forward.

The Committee discussed the following:

WC policy for academic variance for Navitas students – The Committee does not wish to have a blanket policy but rather review cases individually. A document entitled “Talking Points for WC Academic Variance” dated September, 2010, may be used by faculty and others as a guide for whether a student fits criteria for academic variance of the WC category.

Precedent is that any international student who comes to UNH on a foreign country visa is automatically granted the WC requirement. Therefore, all Navitas students would be granted WC.

The Committee is confirming current policy that any international student holding a foreign country visa is granted WC. Other students may petition.

It is helpful for colleagues who advise these students to know what the position of the Discovery Committee is. Barb should be able to communicate the views of the Committee to her faculty colleagues.

J-Term and Online Course Discussion – There are 10 Discovery courses being offered during J-Term 2011. UNH does not differentiate between whether a course is offered online or in the classroom. How a course is delivered is not of consequence, according to the Registrar’s office. The Honors committee decided that J-Term did not fit the pedagogy of Honors courses. For Discovery, the issue isn’t whether it’s a Discovery category course; currently there are Discovery courses offered online and in J-Term. The issue is if it’s an INQ course – how would the faculty be using INQ pedagogy in an online course? That is something we would need

to know. The Committee agreed that at this point in time, J-Term and online are not appropriate vehicles for INQ courses. However, the Committee remains open to reviewing creative proposals.

If a college sends forward a course that it intends to offer during J-Term, regular semester, and/or online, that needs to be indicated on their course proposal paperwork. The Discovery office will adjust the course proposal form accordingly and post it on the Discovery website.

The meeting adjourned at 1:35pm.

Respectfully submitted by,
Amy Cunningham