Core Undergraduate Learning Experiences (CULE) Minutes for August 29, 2011, 2:00-2:50 pm, Hidatsa Room, Memorial Union

Present: Marion Harris, Robert Harrold, RaNelle Ingalls, Rajesh Kavasseri, Andrew Mara, Cynthia Naughton, Charlene Myhre, Larry Peterson, Susan Ray-Degges, Carolyn Schnell, Herbert Snyder

Absent: Kevin McCaul, Lisa Nordick, Seth Rasmussen, Brock Schmeling

1. This was a special meeting to discuss the possible new responsibility for CULE. It seems likely that CULE will be asked to take the initiative on implementing the Higher Learning Commission’s new accreditation model at NDSU. Provost Rafert clearly favors examining our capstones in the major, an option that emerged from the earlier meeting CULE members had to provide feedback on the possible memo to Provost Rafert.

2. The consensus was to accept this new responsibility, if President Bresciani approves NDSU’s participation in this new accreditation model.

3. Among the ideas we discussed were:
   - phasing this in with a pilot of a small sample to test how we will operationalize it,
   - choosing a new name to clearly identify this role of the group,
   - having a memo of endorsement from the Provost and or the President,
   - having the President include it in his State of the University Address,
   - needing help and encouragement from the Provost and Deans to get participation,
   - recognizing that the non-faculty CULE members may be less involved, and
   - probably having one or two additional members for this new responsibility for CULE since the campus needs to send additional team members to the HLC workshops and to develop expertise to serve in key leadership roles for general education and for accreditation and assessment.

4. Marion Harris is stepping down as co-chair because of her new role as Interim Dean for Academic Programs in AFSNR. Herb Snyder volunteered to serve as co-chair starting in January and to be involved in the team that will attend the HLC workshops for the new accreditation model.

Submitted by Larry Peterson