Core Undergraduate Learning Experiences (CULE) Minutes for 
February 11, 2014, 9:00-10:00, Peace Garden

Present: Cole Davidson, Marion Harris, RaNelle Ingalls, Andrew Mara, Cynthia Naughton, Lisa Nordick, Larry Peterson, Seth Rasmussen, Susan Ray-Degges, Amy Rupiper Taggart, Kent Sandstrom, Carolyn Schnell, and Beth Twomey.

Recorder: Kelly Hoyt

Unable to attend: Rajesh Kavasseri, Herbert Snyder and Kevin Walsh.

1. The minutes from 02/04/14 emailed on 02/04/14 were approved.

2. Larry met with Kevin to discuss student responses to the current model.
   - Kevin stated that the Commission of Academic and Student Affairs (within Student Government) is excited about anything we can do in GE to encourage students to volunteer.
   - Kevin told Larry that the Student Government has not yet done the survey to see how beneficial the non-science students thought the present labs were to their education.

3. We continued discussing the Breadth of Knowledge (Understanding and Applying Technology, Understanding Natural and Physical Worlds, Understanding Human Societies, and Personal and Social Responsibility), including “embedded” requirements in Critical Thinking, Cultural Diversity, Global Perspectives, and Service Learning.
   - We discussed the 6 floating credits option again. Last week it seemed as if the “embedded GE credits” practice in many departments was an insurmountable obstacle because some departments require specific GE courses for their program.
     - RaNelle wanted to clarify that if we have courses that can satisfy different outcomes, then the floating credits option will probably work.
     - We decided that they could be in Understanding and Applying Technology, Understanding Natural and Physical Worlds, or Understanding Human Societies, but they needed to balance the disciplinary emphasis (science, technology, art, social science, etc.) of the student’s major.
     - Larry asked if the committee should look at the curricula for different programs over the summer and see how the floating credits would work with them.
       - Marion suggested having the majors do this leg work to see if they think it would work and if they have any suggestions if they run into situations where it might not work. They may come up with creative solutions that we aren’t thinking about. Committee members thought this was a good idea.
   - Larry asked how we should handle Personal and Social Responsibility. Should there be a required number of credits in this category?
     - There was quite a bit of discussion on this. Lisa suggested encouraging majors to develop or modify courses to meet the Personal and Social Responsibility outcome. Because courses can satisfy more than one outcome, Personal and Social Responsibility could be integrated with a course meeting another outcome such as Understanding Natural and Physical Worlds.
   - The question came up if Quantitative Reasoning should be a separate requirement. It is a bullet under Critical Thinking, Creative Thinking, and Problem Solving. Should multiple departments have the option of proposing courses that meet this bullet as part of Critical Thinking?
Marion suggested integrating statistics into multiple courses. For example, we could adopt JMP software as a campus wide initiative, which could be used in a variety of courses to provide quantitative reasoning.

4. Questions, concerns, issues, or brainstorms about our journey
   - Marion asked what our goal for this semester is.
     - Larry stated that we should be trying to finalize the model to get it ready for campus presentations and address administrative questions, such as how this model will work for Registration and Records.
     - Larry said he will put together a draft of how he sees this plan. He will also draft some administrative policies for RaNelle and Cole to review. He will send both of these to committee members for review and we will discuss it the next time we meet.
   - Andy expressed his concern that there is no common gateway for students. He feels like things are going back to a silo approach. How can we create a coherent experience for students? He would like GE to be more “across the board” for all students.

***Reminder*** There is NO meeting next week.

Next meeting is Tuesday, February 25th at 9 am in Peace Garden