Core Undergraduate Learning Experiences (CULE) Minutes for
March 25, 2014, 9:00-10:00, Peace Garden

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

Recorder: Kelly Hoyt

Unable to attend: Marion Harris, Herbert Snyder, Beth Twomey, and Kevin Walsh.

1. The minutes from 03/11/14 emailed on 03/12/14 were approved.

2. The Committee reviewed suggestions from Amy, Andy, Kent, Larry, and Susan on adding Understanding Diversity as a separate learning outcome with the bullets they wrote when they met last week.
   - Larry noted some background information on this outcome and its bullets:
     - The reason for adding Understanding Diversity as a separate outcome is to make it easier for advisors and students to track if the outcome has been met.
     - The above group tried to make the bullets so students could meet this outcome in either Human Societies or Natural and Physical Worlds.
     - In following the Maryland College Park example, the group assumed that a course would need to meet 60% of the bullets to satisfy an outcome. In this case, students would need to meet 3 of the 5 bullets listed.

   ○ Suggestions
     - Lisa asked if Global Perspectives would stay embedded.
       - Larry suggested that “understanding diversity” could be an umbrella that would include diversity and global perspectives.
       - Lisa indicated that if GP was going to stay embedded we would need more bullets that included GP.
       - Amy indicated that GP wasn’t discussed at last week’s meeting; they just focused on the Diversity aspect.
     - Amy suggested embedding GP into other outcomes and not just Diversity so it would be covered, but wouldn’t have to be a separate outcome.
     - Carolyn putting the bullets from Diversity into Human Societies and Natural and Physical Worlds and not having a Diversity outcome.
     - Lisa suggested adding GP to the Diversity Outcome title and incorporating both of them in that outcome.
       - Lisa suggested that we need to determine how important GP is to determine where it should be placed and if it should be embedded or not. Since the President is encouraging study abroad, it seems like GP is important to him. Consequently, it should be important in this model as well and shouldn’t be embedded.
       - Larry suggested that GP could be included in multiple outcomes and the heading of the Diversity could also be changed to include it there. He gave some examples where he thought it could be incorporated into bullets in other outcomes.
     - Lisa said the advantage of having GP not embedded and just listed with Diversity is that it would be highlighted when it’s not embedded in other areas.
RaNelle asked how many majors we have where students are NOT addressing global perspectives. Maybe this is not something that needs to be identified or defined because it’s already taking place.

- Lisa noted that global perspectives was not something Teacher Education historically emphasized in undergraduate curriculum due to the distinct (generally tied to licensure) nature of U.S. education (as opposed to approaches abroad). They have made a deliberate effort to now factor global perspectives into their undergraduate curriculum/efforts regardless of such distinction.
- RaNelle asked if GP was something we would have to worry about in the future (such as 10 years down the road) or will it be something that is addressed in every course/program due to the importance and significance of it.
- Larry felt that General Education is always going to be changing and that this model might not be in place that far into the future and so it’s something that needs to be addressed now in this model.

  - Lisa moved to add Global Perspectives to the Understanding Diversity outcome heading. Amy seconded that motion. After some discussion Lisa moved to change the heading to Diversity and Global Perspectives. The committee voted on and approved the motion.

  - Andy suggested as we tweaked the language, to keep the wording such that study abroad would satisfy it.

  - Kent moved to add “or international” to the last bullet so it reads “collaborate with others in diverse interpersonal, intercultural, or international settings.” Amy seconded the motion. The committee voted on and approved the motion.

  - Larry asked if we needed to include the word global in the Technology outcome. The committee felt it wasn’t necessary.

3. Amy asked about the outcomes that only have two bullets and the idea that courses need to meet 60% of the bullets to satisfy the outcome. In these instances (Natural and Physical Worlds and Human Societies), it’s either going to be 50% or 100%. Instructors who teach courses in those areas may have an issue with this. Should we create at least one more bullet for each of these outcomes?

  - Seth stated that the second bullet in Natural and Physical Worlds is not actually happening in most science classes unless students are doing actual research. He feels an additional bullet is necessary because most students wouldn’t satisfy this bullet.

  - Amy suggested breaking the second bullet in Natural and Physical Worlds into two bullets. One bullet would be about the scientific method and second would be “investigate and explain natural and physical worlds.”

  - Larry asked how do you assess that a student understands the scientific method.

    - Larry asked Cynthia, Rajesh and Seth to come up with a third bullet for Understanding Natural and Physical Worlds, perhaps one that deals better with the scientific approach.

    - He asked Amy, Andy, Kent and Susan to come up with a third bullet for Human Societies. Please bring your ideas to the next meeting for discussion.

- Larry asked if Personal and Social Responsibility should also be non-embedded or if it should be covered in multiple outcomes.

- Does Horizon Expander (a.k.a. “floating credits”) disappear?

  - Cole and RaNelle suggested moving away from having an add-on category that needs to be satisfied if there are no credits associated with it.
Larry asked the committee if they thought we could keep the Horizon Expander but make Diversity and Global Perspectives and Personal and Social Responsibility subsets of it. This would require students to take a course in each of the areas but still give them some freedom to choose which courses to take. The committee agreed that this seemed reasonable.

Next meeting is Tuesday, April 1st at 9 am in Peace Garden