Core Undergraduate Learning Experiences (CULE) Minutes for September 3, 2013, 8:30-9:30, Peace Garden Room

Present: Cole Davidson, Marion Harris, RaNelle Ingalls, Rajesh Kavasseri, Andrew Mara, Charlene Myhre, Cynthia Naughton, Lisa Nordick, Larry Peterson, Susan Ray-Degges, Kent Sandstrom, Carolyn Schnell, and Herb Snyder.

Unable to attend: Seth Rasmussen

1. We approved the minutes from the 04/30/13 meeting, emailed on 04/30/13.

2. Members introduced themselves and welcomed our new member Cole Davidson, Assistant Registrar. Char Myhre announced that she is retiring and will be replaced by Beth Twomey. Larry expressed his thanks to Char for her many years of conscientious service in the cause of general education on campus and in the state.

3. We combined our discussion of the feedback session at the Teaching and Learning Conference with plans on how to finish our work.
   - We put on hold the idea of planning a 2-3 hour face-to-face feedback session with attendees invited by the Deans.
     - Are some of the options (such as integrating GE in the majors) really choices we would recommend?
     - What will be the purpose of asking faculty for their feedback? Will it be decisive or merely advisory?
     - How can we encourage people to think more holistically?
     - Can faculty make meaningful evaluations or rankings without more knowledge of the possible costs and benefits of the options?
   - We may still conduct a GDC survey on the options after we examine some land-grant examples in more detail, but members have similar concerns about a GDC survey as about a face-to-face session.
   - At our next meeting, we will examine a small number of land-grants that have recently revised or are revising their GE programs.
     - Larry will send out examples from 2-4 campuses with information.
       - Advising sheets or checklists
       - Rationales or explanations for their implementation
       - Information on how they assess and approve courses
   - After examining these examples, we plan to divide into working groups to independently create GE models.
   - We may have a half-day retreat to discuss the models.
     - It will help to have a rubric to evaluate the models with questions such as resources needed, assessment, etc.
   - At some point, it might be helpful to get some advice from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. We could invite someone to our retreat or have an interactive video conference with them. (We read an article about their revision process in fall 2010.)
     - Larry will contact Nancy Mitchell from UNL.
4. Members agreed that we get more student feedback as we build a GE model. Larry will contact student government leaders Robert Lauf and Erik Diederich.

Next Meeting: 8:30 September 10, Peace Garden Room