Core Undergraduate Learning Experiences (CULE) Minutes for September 23, 2014, 8:30-9:30, Room of Nations

Present: Cole Davidson, Noah Engels, Marion Harris, RaNelle Ingalls, Lisa Nordick, Larry Peterson, Seth Rasmussen, Kent Sandstrom, Carolyn Schnell, Amy Rupiper Taggart, and Beth Twomey

Recorder: Kelly Hoyt

Unable to attend: Rajesh Kavasseri, Andrew Mara, Cynthia Naughton, Susan Ray-Degges, and Herbert Snyder

1. The minutes from 09/16/14 were approved

2. Housekeeping
   - Larry is not able to get on the agenda for the heads and chairs meeting until January 2015. We will not be able to wait that long to get feedback from them on integrating the Bison Core into programs, or seeing what Gen. Ed. looks like to them.
   - Larry, Marion, RaNelle and Amy will be having a subcommittee meeting next week (Sept. 30) after the CULE meeting to discuss talking points for the option of integrating the Bison Core into the programs.
   - Larry suggested that after they draft those talking points, members could seek out certain chairs and deans that this might have the most impact on and discuss with them to get some feedback.
   - Kent said he could invite Larry to the college meeting of chairs and heads next month.
     - Larry will meet with them and will contact Scott Wood about a similar meeting with Science and Math chairs.
     - Marion will see about meeting with the Curriculum Committee in the College of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Natural Resources.
   - Carolyn advised that when the subcommittee meets they need to come up with a clear plan for students who change majors or who completing the Bachelor of University Studies.
     - Kent said the Provost asked if we were addressing the transfer piece (students transferring in from another school and students transferring between majors) when he met with her last Friday.
   - Some committee members are concerned about this being more restrictive for students and not having as many options to choose from because they have to take general education classes that the major picks to be part of their program. They feel like this is causing more “silos” throughout the campus.
     - The language we use needs to be "integrated" rather than “ownership”. This will hopefully take away the “silo” feeling by not saying “own it”.
   - Lisa also reminded the committee that we need to consider the resources we have and will need for this model to be successful.

3. Reports from subgroups
   - Applied Communication (Kent & Andy)
     - Kent and Andy met with Mark Meister three times over the summer. The Communication department is willing to participate, but they are concerned about the cost and workload. They do not want to be pulled away from their research. They identified 3 key sources of support as necessary to be successfully
implemented: 1) a tenure-track line for a Coordinator of Applied Communication; (2) support for at least one Graduate Assistant to work closely with the Coordinator; and (3) Buy in from other departments and colleges.

- Larry feels that the pieces that should be highlighted in our campus presentations are the innovative ones on Andy’s handout--the last three, beginning with number 3, having 1 credit modules or workshops that are offered through the Center for Applied Communications. This wouldn’t necessarily mean classes in a conventional sense.
  - Lisa suggested that we could get businesses involved by having them outsource projects to the center for students to work on to gain credit in Applied Communication.

- Kent stated that the Communication department is reluctant to be an actively involved agent in this process. They are willing to provide their training and expertise to teach others how to teach these courses. There may not be many courses in Applied Communications that would actually be taught by the Communications department, except maybe for their own majors.
  - Lisa reiterated that it wouldn’t have to be courses. It could be more like field experience, project, internship, etc.

- We will have to have financial support from the University to be able to do this type of module, such as funding for the Applied Communication position.

- Lisa suggested having learning outcomes for the Applied Communication experience. She’s concerned that we will have more courses that involve listening and not doing, like a traditional lecture course and that would not be Applied Communication.
  - Larry mentioned that students could do some kind of presentation or create a brochure or something they do at the end that would be an example of applied communication.
  - Amy suggested BIN – Bison Information Network (SU TV) could be part of this.
  - This would be something that is more oral, audio or visual rather than written.
  - Carolyn said we need to keep in mind that not all students are on campus taking courses. There are distance ed. students and how will this impact them.
  - Others offered that for those student’s podcasts and/or videos could be used.
  - Lisa said that an applied model also becomes a venue for those businesses whose own resources are strapped or thin, and often times can’t provide field experience for the students but would benefit from it. The campus becomes the conduit for them to have students better prepared. We can ask how we can work with them on a project that might help prepare these students for your profession.
  - Service learning would be another category that students could get the field experience in.

*****Next meeting is Tuesday, September 30th at 8:30 am in Arikara*****