Core Undergraduate Learning Experiences (CULE) Minutes for September 30, 2014, 8:30-9:30, Arikara

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

Recorder: Kelly Hoyt

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

1. The minutes from 09/23/14 emailed on 09/26/13 were approved.

2. Updates
   - Three meetings have been scheduled to get feedback on the proposal to integrate/embed/infiltrate the Bison Core Model into the majors.
     - October 3 – Curriculum Committee from the College of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Natural Resources (Marion)
     - October 15 – AHSS (Larry and Amy)
     - October 28 – with chairs from the College of Science & Math (Seth and Larry)
   - Noah would like to bring students from the Academic and Student Affairs Commission to a meeting to discuss their Gen. Ed. experiences and provide feedback on the proposed model. There are students from different colleges and various age groups that are interested in attending.
     - Larry asked if it would be better if we wait until we have our model polished so it communicates more clearly or should we bring them in sooner.
       - We discussed two options
         1. The students could act as an arbitrarily selected focus group. We would have to come up with some good questions to ask them about General Education.
         2. Wait until the roll out phase when we have something a little more polished to discuss with them.
       - Members seemed to favor getting feedback from students at both phases.
   - Members discussed the Survey of Alumni by the OIRA with analysis by Mark Hanson
     - The Learning Outcomes we associate with GE were generally rated quite high (except for diversity).
     - Items listed that actually named GE had a larger percentage of students who indicated they are ambivalent or disappointed.
     - Because 55% indicate that they are ambivalent and disappointed about the following item: “general education coursework was integrated with coursework in my specific major,” that suggests we are on the right track with the Bison Core Model.

3. Committee Processes—
   - Should we “flip” the committee in order to get our work done this semester?
     - Instead of people bringing their documents and reporting on their work, they would send them out ahead of time and committee members would be responsible for reviewing them and bring any questions to the meeting to discuss with the committee. This would be a better way to utilize our time together. We might meet a little less often as a large group but be more task-oriented at meetings.
   - We’re going to need some PowerPoint presentations, some documents to share with the campus and our own “script” of talking points that we will share with different groups when we roll this out.
Marion asked what the “target” deadline is.
  - Larry explained that it is really the end of this semester to have the model completed and ready to present in January. We will need to have open forums and meet with groups like the President’s Cabinet, Deans, heads/chairs, student organizations to get feedback. We may need to make some changes on it. We will then need to get it on the agendas for the Faculty Senate to discuss in April and approve in May.

Lisa asked if we should be thinking about getting some documentation on the framework in place for the model.
  - Larry said that the documentation would be what was worked on over the summer, such as the points for what the Applied Communication would look like and the document on how would course validation/re-validation review would work.

Kent asked who on campus needs to approve this.
  - Larry said Faculty Senate. It does not need to go through Academic Affairs Committee because it’s not a degree that needs to be approved. He said we want to get the deans and students behind this, because if they don’t support it, then it isn’t going to pass and it isn’t going to work.

Lisa was concerned with people asking how we are going to ensure that people really know how and can effectively implement it.
  - Amy reminded the committee that we can’t have every single piece done. We have to have a vision and if the vision is important enough to the institution, then we can work on all the little pieces.
  - Larry thought we need to have some of the details figured out. But we know that some things will be changed once we present it.

Marion said she thought that we should keep meeting every week and push through until we are done.

Carolyn thinks that we need to have at least a shell of the presentation and then we can work down from there.
  - She suggested having a computer and projector set up to go over the shell of the presentation.
  - Can divide up the documents to be created for the presentation?

Amy will send out her brainstorming document on Strategic Communication. It is a rough outline of what she thinks we need to do how we need to separate the tasks out.

We also discussed how we need a more aesthetically compelling version of the model completed as well as part of the roll out.
  - Andy will work on this but he would like the “bigger picture” to be completed first and then he can implement it into a flowchart or something that looks nice.

Once we get the shell of the presentation laid out, we can meet with the group of students Noah has been in contact with.

*****Next Meeting is Tuesday, October 7th in Arikara at 8:30 am*****