Core Undergraduate Learning Experiences (CULE) Minutes for
October 14, 2014, 8:30-9:30, Arikara

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

Recorder: Kelly Hoyt

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

1. The minutes from 10/07/14 were approved.

2. Brief Updates
   - The budget has been posted to Google Drive. Amy hasn’t checked to see if there has been any activity but this is something we should keep up on.
   - Amy, Marion, and Larry attended the NDGEC Summit in Bismarck last week. They were in separate proficiency groups based on the learning outcomes about which the GE Summits have reached consensus. They will be sharing these proficiencies with people on campus and getting feedback. This needs to be done by December.
     o These are system wide benchmarks. What does it look like at completion of General Ed for students who are proficient in these areas (writing, speaking, quantitative literacy, etc.)?
     o The vision is that these proficiencies (rather than just course titles) would be the basis for GE transfer in the future. The sending institutions would certify proficiency in the various outcome areas.
   - The GE Summit also reviewed the NDUS Gen Ed policy (403.7) and reached a tentative compromise solution. There is a possibility of exceptions to the policy based on the learning outcomes approach. May be able to pilot some things and see how they work and will allow some flexibility.

3. Plan for meeting with Provost Ingram on October 21
   - Larry’s invitation to her noted that “we are eager to learn about your vision for general education at NDSU and to talk about how that fits with our work.”
   - How do we want to structure that meeting?
     o Amy suggested putting a PowerPoint together and presenting our model and components with some rationale to show her the complete plan we have. We should try to keep it brief and maybe use just 8 or 9 slides.
       ✓ Committee agreed to do a trial presentation to Provost Ingram that could be tweaked for a campus-wide presentation later on.
     o Larry suggested having a chart, graph, or picture at the beginning that would show how all the pieces come together, and then showing it again at the end.
     o Marion suggested stressing what is working now and what we need to build on. Indicate what is new in the model.
   - With Andy’s guidance, the committee used the KANO model analysis to try and determine components of the model that are high impact, high dollars to low impact low dollars to show to Provost Ingram in the presentation.
Marion suggested using the image of a brick wall, with new things being the new bricks adding to the wall. There are existing bricks that are already labeled with things that we already have and are working. This could be a good graphic for the PowerPoint.

- Amy will send the PowerPoint out to committee members to provide feedback on it in the next 24 hours. Marion suggested making it simple and showing that says gen ed is important, undergrads are important, this is what we’ve discovered, this is what we have, and this is what we need.
  - Lisa suggested using the chart Larry made that lays out the model and just add a column showing the rationale for the components, which should be sufficient.
  - Amy thinks that it is unlikely to get Provost Ingram’s attention if we use the same type of media she has already seen in the past. Hopefully the PowerPoint will get her more engaged and excited about the model and providing support in favor of it.

- Kent suggested that we speak with the Teaching/Learning Task Force that Provost Ingram has formed to create the Strategic Plan

- Carolyn summarized her discussion with Larry Reynolds about the Honors 189 course implementation.
  - He proposed that students be divided into small groups and be addressing an academic question, in his case the question is What is Academia? They will then be using WordPress, which is interactive software to create a webpage.
  - The cost will involve a coordinator to be in charge of this. We will potentially be able to have a symposium to serve as a campus keynote. This would jump start the class about what’s happening, why it’s happening and how we’re going to go about it.
  - This would be followed by a research piece in which students would divide into the areas of interest or major, probably into 8 groups that would need some kind of coordination.
  - Then divide into smaller groups (which would be the class situation of approximately 30 students) and these teams would create the webpages. They would bring them back to the whole group with perhaps a competition for the best webpage.
  - The topics would be doable and relevant to their areas of interest. It might be by major or by college. The colleges could determine what their interests would be that they want addressed. We could save money by using upper division student leaders, such as graduate students at the college level to coordinate the student activities in the colleges and small groups. This would be for the critical thinking 1st year.
  - Larry said this would be a hybrid model with things delivered via web or face-to-face. There might be meetings that all the students would come to. Instead of having 60 senior lecturers to teach these classes, we might use grad students and advanced undergrads to facilitate these discussions. You would need a full time coordinator to run this. It would be at least as complicated as first year writing. You would need support, such as an administrative assistant.
  - Larry said going this route for the critical thinking piece of the model would lower the cost. It would also be very innovative and students would be sharing this with other students across campus.
4. Next steps on the GE Roll-out Plan
   • We will meet with Provost Ingram on October 21 and show our PowerPoint to her.
   • On October 28th we will have a “debriefing” about the meeting with the Provost.
   • For November 4, we will invite the group of students Noah has suggested to come to the meeting to hear their views of GE and their experiences on campus.

*****Next Meeting is Tuesday, October 28th at 8:30 am in Arikara*****