

LAC Minutes – FINAL

Friday, 3/22/2019 – CLIMB

Attendance:

Voting Members		Voting Members, cont.		Non-Voting Members	
Chris Brooks, Vice-Chair	x	Jessica Martin		Kendra Cawley	
Magda D'Angelis-Morris	x	Linda Paulson		Sally Earll	x
Marc Goodman		Davina Ramirez		Susan Wilson, recorder	x
Allison Gross		Sara Robertson			
Wayne Hooke		Julianne Sandlin	x		
G.D. Iyer	x	Torie Scott			
Troy Jesse		Thomas Songer		Today's Guests	
Jamee Kristen		Nora Stevens, Chair	x	None	
Hannah Love	x	Delpha Thomas	x		
Heather Lubay	x	Jacki Williams			
Juan Maldonado					

ACTION ITEMS

- Nora: Send the SS DSAC (via Jamee) the LAC's suggestions for renaming the Critical Thinking rubric
- Nora: Work on 2019 Summer Peer Review Critique Form

BUSINESS, PART 1

Light Attendance

Due to the timing of the meeting (final exam week), attendance was light.

Housekeeping

With a few members running late, Nora opted to save some business items until later.

DISCUSSION

GEARS

Chris brought the group up to date on the status of the General Education Assessment Review Subcommittee. GEARS was established as a subcommittee of the Curriculum Committee (CC) to review all requests to get courses on the new General Education list. He explained that the CC doesn't have the capacity to handle the volume of applications expected. For each course put through, a SAC will need to provide:

- an up-to-date CCOG
- an explanation as to which aspect(s) of the Gen Ed Philosophy statement the course applies
- a signature assignment

SACs will need to get up-to-speed on the rubrics and assignment design by fall 2019 and be prepared to submit their Gen Ed course proposals between January 2020 and early 2021 (in time to make the 2021-22 catalog). The plan is to have early adopters go in January, February, and March—and the rest of the SACs scheduled in the subsequent months via a lottery system.

Nora mentioned the importance of transparent assignment design—"can someone outside the discipline understand it?" Sally compared what she does in Curriculum with what GEARS will do. We may not have expertise in a subject area, but we understand

the forms and the process, and that's what is important. DSAC reps and LAC members would make ideal coaches and mentors for the SACs. It was noted that the LAC has one DSAC facilitator (Jamee) and three DSAC faculty in its ranks (Delpha, Hannah, and Marc).

Funding is a big question mark. If no funds exist, then faculty training will be sparse and GEARS' course reviews will be cursory. If there is funding, GEARS could hold SACs to stricter standards on the approval side because there would be more access up front to training on assignment design, more TLC presentations, and one-on-one mentoring (at special project's rate, Chris thinks). As an additional resource, Delpha suggested a video on backward assignment design. If GEARS sets a higher bar for submissions, we can expect a higher number of denials and resubmissions. Chris (and Jamee) have shared with Kendra their concerns about the increasing demands placed on what amounts to a core group of people who have been working on this since 2015. In addition to the LAC, there's the EAC-LAC Integration Workgroup (ELIWG), and now GEARS—which is a big lift all by itself. Add in the DSAC efforts, and burn out becomes a real issue. Chris hopes the funding question will be answered before the end of the current school year.

Heather asked if anyone is looking at how courses transfer and whether the assignments given at PCC are similar to what they're giving at the four-year schools. Chris says Guided Pathways, in a sense, will shine some light on that. Until now, SACs mostly have been concerned about getting their courses on the Gen Ed list, and course transferability has been less of a priority.

BUSINESS, PART 2

EAC Update

Magda said the EAC accepted the proposal for GEARS at its last meeting, but it didn't get much air time as most of the meeting was devoted to the EAC Membership and Structure Task Force Recommendation. The LAC members were interested to hear that the recommendation was defeated, and because it didn't pass, it is uncertain if LAC operational protocols will change.

With the attention to assessment mounting, Nora said the LAC needs to maintain a level of authority and the ability to respond quickly to changing demands. She and Chris believe the current LAC structure, with its council status, its chair and vice-chair leadership model (and staggered terms), is wholly effective, so they weren't sure that the proposed restructuring of the EAC was in the LAC's best interests. Heather, who has been active in the Advancement of Educators, lent some credence to that, explaining that any time you add subcommittees, you are adding layers to the approval process.

2019-20 Vice-Chair

Nora announced that Delpha will be the LAC's new vice-chair next year, and she read a brief biography that detailed Delpha's rich background in assessment. Delpha said she fully expects to be in 'listening mode' next year as she gets the lay of the land.

What's Left for 2018-19?

Peer review will be the LAC's last big project of the year, but Nora said the spring meetings will address issues coming out of the DSACs and GEARS. Contemplating how to assess Communication, if it remains a core outcome, is another potential agenda item, according to Chris.

Social Science Rubric

Nora said she received only two suggestions for renaming the Social Science DSAC rubric that currently is dubbed “Critical Thinking.” There was “Social Analysis” from Chris and “Social Analysis and Inquiry” from Julianne. Nora will pass along the suggestions to the Social Science DSAC via Jamee. Chris said the rationale is that you cannot have college-wide rubrics developed by and tailored to DSACs and say that CTE programs must align to them. It’s a contradiction.

Summer 2019 Peer Review

Chris explained the peer review process for those new to the scene. Of special note this year, the reviewers will be asked to write a custom question for each SAC based on what is presented in the individual assessment reports. In turn, each SAC will be asked to answer their question when they complete the new, abbreviated, annual program review document each fall. [Note: Annual program review won’t begin until fall 2020 at the earliest, but we will use summer 2019 as a training ground for crafting tailored questions.]

By a show of hands, Delpha, G.D. (maybe), Hannah, Heather, Julianne, and Magda said they were interested in being peer reviewers this year. Sally and Susan are available, too, though they serve in an advisory capacity. Nora plans to work on the peer review critique form this spring; peer review training will take place in late June.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Nora at 2:12. The Council meets again on April 26.