**Liberal Learning Program Council**

**Minutes from November 20, 2013**

Present: Rich Blumberg, Connie Hall, Rita King, John Laughton, Tara Porfido, Monisha Pulimood, Nina Ringer, Nelson Rodriguez, John Sisko, Nicole Ferrito, David McGee, Chung Chak, Ann Peel, Kristen Speigel, Robert Kinloch, Kyle Holland, Robert Anderson, Marla Jaksch, Sharon Byrne

Excused: Lynn Tang

1. Minutes from Nov. 6, 2013 approved as presented (13-0-0);
2. The committee discussed the course proposal for IDS 343 along with responses to questions noted at Nov 6th meeting. The following items questions will begin the discussion with Dr. Gross when she visits the committee regarding ongoing questions or concerns with her proposal.
   1. Committee members noted that the improvements to course requirements are well done. Dr. Gross’ responses are summarized in italics. Relevant discussion items from other committee members not italicized.
   2. In Dr. Gross’ responses she indicated here interaction with the student interns in Tajiksistan, however, what about interns in countries other than Tajikistan? How will they be supervised?
      1. *In each country Ben Orbach of AUA will be there along with a local supervisor. The model is similar for each country. There will not a TCNJ faculty member. Dr. Gross will interact with all students via Skype and collect assignments.*
      2. *Dr. Gross will be getting a full course credit for teaching IDS 343. Is there a limit to the number of students? Expectation is 40 (not all TCNJ) for all programs/countries. Last year there were 19, but this was the first year. There may be 4-6 TCNJ students. All students will register for credit with TCNJ if they want credit. This will bring revenue into TCNJ*
   3. Why is this an IDS course? Was this course proposed in any specific department or in history (Dr. Gross’ home department)?
      1. *The course has not been proposed in history because it does not fit the more traditional view of a history course.*
      2. *Students get professional experience and gain experience in cultural studies, history, international relations, customs and culture. This is a service, internship and not strictly a history or international relations courses*
      3. *Course listing may attract students across disciplines. IDS listing may be more attractive across disciplines and does not bias students’ interest.*
   4. Who approves the course instructor, if they are not full time, to instruct TCNJ IDS courses that are approved through LLPC? Adjuncts are hired through Liberal Learning Office under Dr. Anderson’s purview (or director of LL).
      1. *This question was cleared up by previous response item b. Currently one instruction is sufficient and Ben Orbach does not need to be hired as an adjunct.*
   5. Is there a precedent for TCNJ course where there is not continuous supervision by faculty (in this case the internship instructor is only onsite for 2 days and communicates electronically the remainder of the time).
      1. Dr. Anderson indicated that two IDS courses were approved for John Pollack last year.
      2. Internships do occur without faculty supervising directly, but these are domestic/often in state.
      3. *There is a local supervisor in full contact and reporting back to Dr. Gross.*
   6. Study abroad courses do use “travel managers”, but faculty are present the entire time. This situation the students are “handed off” to the AUA.
      1. *Dr. Gross clarified that they are in pairs, or possibly in dorms together. Additionally, there is an onsite supervisor that is also in contact with Dr. Gross in regard to student safety and performance in the internship.*
   7. The assessment of presentations that occur upon the students return are not consistent: presentation assessed by “a faculty member”. How is this faculty member determined?
      1. *The contact faculty member from each institution that has students enrolling in the internship are arranged through the students full time institution before the internship begins. There is often a faculty contact in the home institution and this assessment would be sent to Dr. Gross ultimately. Student also identifies the setting for presentation before they leave on experience.*
   8. Please clarify the Learning Goal: “Take responsibility for personal safety”
      1. *Webinars and in person orientation before departure and on site orientation with general safety guidelines and safety guidelines specific to the country.*
   9. Are there prereqs for this course?
      1. *Students apply for the program and skills are matched to students.*
      2. TCNJ does not have specific College-wide requirements for internships.
   10. *TCNJ will be the only college offering credit for these interns as far as Dr. Gross knows.*
3. The LLPC Chair and representative to CAP reported that FSP recommendation has been tabled by CAP. Although it passed previously, a new concern was brought forward by a sub-committee that the application of the fsp as a wild card to quantitative reasoning reduces this requirement from 2 to 1 courses and this is too much. Additionally, the committee wants to wait for the new Assoc. Provost for Liberal Learning to come on board.

It was noted that there is a precedent because double majors also only complete 1 quantitative reasoning and 1 lab science requirement. The same applies for students completing an IDS concentrations to fulfill the liberal learning requirements.

1. The committee continued discussion of the IDS course following Dr. Gross’ departure. Some were satisfied with response, others were not convinced it could be considered a TCNJ course. There was a motion put forward by John Sisko to table the topic and carried by a vote of 8-6-0 (for-against- abstain).
2. Additional discussion continued regarding the fact that tabling the issue will likely mean it cannot be reconsidered until the spring semester. The next LLPC meeting on Dec 4th will have low attendance (may not have a quorum) because it is the day for end of semester presentations/activities in many departments. There are no other appropriate dates to meet.
3. A motion was put forward by Chung Chak to reconsider tabling the issue and this was seconded. The vote carried with 10 in favor and 1 against, no abstentions.
4. Further discussion regarding the satisfaction of the committee with Dr. Gross’s responses both in writing and at the meeting today. Most felt that most concerns were addressed and this unique opportunity for students should be made available.
5. A motion to vote on the approval of IDS 343 without conditions was put forward by Chung Chak and seconded. The vote carried in favor of approving the course with a vote of 10 to 0 with 1 abstention.
6. Adjournment at 3:10 pm