

Curriculum Committee Meeting , January 28, 2009

Members Present: Sergio Quesada, Paul Duncan, Leara Rhodes, Mark Anderson, Susan Thomas, Silvia Giraudo, Kathleen Schmaltz

1. Doris Kadish began the meeting by charging the committee with:
 - reviewing the basic requirements for the undergraduate major and certificate programs.
 - examining existing courses included in the program.
 - developing new programs (minor and/or graduate program).
 - making decisions for course and program improvements.
2. The committee agreed to meet bimonthly at first in an effort to bring the program up to date. The next meeting will take place on February 11, 2009.
3. Kathleen reviewed the basic requirements for the LACS AB degree.
4. The committee considered the following tasks that need to be prioritized and conducted:
 - Review of basic requirements and coursework
 - Establishment of a minor
 - Establishment of a graduate program
 - Creation of an internship course
 - Creation of a service learning course
 - Considerations for the capstone course
 - Adding a Caribbean component to the major
 - Program/course change approval process for students with extenuating circumstances
 - Opportunities for cross-listing courses
 - Assessment of new learning outcomes
 - Course promotion for new courses
5. Key points that were noted throughout the meeting included:
 - Possibility of organizing the Pro-seminar courses around a broad theme.
 - Possibility of making one pro-seminar a skill based course that serves as a pre-req for other courses in the program.
 - Need for creating joint appointments and earning EFT for LACSI.
 - Difficulties associated with cross-listing courses in some departments.
 - Creation of a new introductory to the America's course that would meet Franklin College's multicultural requirement by focusing on Latin American & Caribbean immigration to the United States. Such a course could allow LACSI to earn significant EFT.
 - Identify the Caribbeanists on campus and the courses with significant Caribbean content that they teach. Consider requiring LACS majors to take one of these courses as part of their program.
 - Some courses currently included in the undergraduate major program need to be removed.
 - Some new courses that have come online since the program was developed need to be included as track or upper division electives.
6. The committee will begin by reviewing the basic requirements for LACSI's undergraduate major and examining the courses that comprise the major. Before the next meeting all members of the committee will familiarize themselves with the requirements and the courses included in those requirements.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen Schmaltz

