Meeting Minutes from September 22, 2011

Curriculum Committee

Subcommittee of the Academic Senate

Present: Rinetta Early, Rebecca Beal, Sara McKinnon, Joanna Pinckney, A. Joe Ritchie, Cari Torres, Mary Pieper-Warren, Caterina Labriola, Chris Schultz, Jim Arnold

Resource: Kim O’Gara

Discussion Items:

1. The Academic Senate report focused on the approval of a subcommittee to review and modify the General Education offerings. An extensive discussion followed regarding various ways to approach the project. This included methods of getting a large number of faculty to participate to provide representation from every corner of the college. Times for the first meeting were proposed: a Friday was suggested so that faculty otherwise teaching might attend. A Tuesday at the time of the Department Chairs meeting was thought to offer the most probable time to get Chairs involved. Further discussion by the Senate and the CC will reach a direction at our next meeting. The group briefly discussed the various ways to organize the ‘themes’ of the GE courses. We had, what some felt was a productive discussion, about ‘learning communities’, or SLO’s, ‘Threads of content’ and other models for constructing the basis for approaching how the group would approach organizing this effort. We discussed the issue of ‘why review the General Ed. courses’: WASC wants it, it has not been done in a systemic manner in the memory of anyone in the room, and 21st Century require a new approach. A pointimmerged from our discussion, that extensive discussion is valuable by all members of the faculty, but if the turnout is poor, the people and ideas in the room, will raise the discussion and options and future direction [and ownership by faculty] of the goals of the College’s instructional program. Ten Plus One comes with responsibility as well as authority.

2. Chris agreed to send another request to Department Chairs for individuals to participate in the GE project.

3. The Senate will have to approve membership on the subcommittee. The role of Classified and students will need discussion and decisions.

4. Karen Robinson’s past role on the Committee was recognized for her clarity and diligence.

5. Chris will contact members of the Art faculty [Rick Hall and Bill Abright] in preparation for the soon to change policy being mandated on activity courses and repeatability.

Courses Approved

MEDA 210 L