

**Academic Foundations Committee
Minutes**

February 14, 2006

Present:	Randall Gloege Susan Gilbertz Sandie Rietz Lewis Rife (student)	Dan Gretch Connie Landis Bruce Brumley Janii Pedersen (student)
Absent:	Mark Hardt – <i>excused</i> David Garloff – <i>ex-officio</i> John Cech – <i>ex-officio</i> Mary Susan Fishbaugh – <i>ex-officio</i> George White – <i>ex-officio</i>	Abbas Heiat – <i>excused</i> Tasneem Khaleel – <i>ex-officio</i> Kirk Lacy – <i>ex-officio</i> Mary McNally – <i>ex-officio</i> Curt Kochner – <i>ex-officio</i>
Guests:	Brent Roberts Loyd Knudsen	Dan Gross
Presiding:	Mark Hardt, Chair	

Connie Landis called the meeting to order at 3:40 p.m. in the Bridger room of the SUB.

The minutes of February 7 were accepted as presented.

I. Discussion/Action Items

A. New Submissions

Postponed for further review.

Item 47 AF Course: BUS 101 Introduction to Business for Cat. III. Social Sciences

- Motion by Sandie Rietz, seconded by Bruce Brumley to approve Item 47 for Social Sciences.

It was stated that the Department of Business Academic Programs should be commended for how well they put this proposal together. It was noted that this course could have more content about the relationship of business and society.

- Motion carried with one abstention.

Item 57.a AF Course: LS 125 Research in the Information Age for Cat. I.C. Information Literacy

- Motion by Sandie Rietz, seconded by Bruce Brumley to approve Item 57.a for the Information Literacy category.

Brent Roberts, Librarian, noted that our students are swimming upstream against a river of information. Their research is often hit and miss. The proposed LS 125 course is not just an orientation of the Library, but how to deal with the massive flow of information. It is not a writing course, but rather a critical thinking and analysis course, which is a core competency for all our students. The course will be offered in person as well as online and can be offered at the COT.

It was cited that if this is the only option in the Information Literacy category, most likely there will not be enough instructors to teach it at the outset.

Dan Gross stated that the Department of Communication and Theatre has submitted one course for this category (to be discussed next week) and is working on another in cooperation with the Library.

- Motion carried with one opposed.
- Motion by Susan Gilbertz, seconded by Randall Gloege that since the deadline for submitting courses has passed, the Committee will accept no new submissions other than those already in the pipeline to the committee.
- Motion carried with one opposed.

B. Corrected Courses

Item 6.p AF Category II. Natural Sciences B. Physical Sciences CHEM 115 General Chemistry I

Item 6.Q AF Category II. Natural Sciences B. Physical Sciences CHEM 118 General Chemistry I Lab

It was noted that the typographical error in the corequisite of CHEM 118 has been fixed.

- Motion by Lewis Rife, seconded by Susan Gilbertz to approve Items 6.p and 6.Q for Physical Sciences.
- Motion carried.

Item 9.e AF Category IV. History and Cultural Diversity B. Cultural Diversity PHIL 105 The Religious Quest

- Motion by Sandie Rietz, seconded by Susan Gilbertz to approve Item 9.e for Cultural Diversity.

It was noted that the revised syllabus addresses the quest, rather than a list of religions.

- Motion carried with one abstention.

C. Resubmitted Courses

Item 56 Resubmitted AF Course: HON 181 The Ancient and Medieval Worlds for Cat. V. Arts and Humanities A. Arts

It was noted that the earlier issue with this course was that it was submitted for the Arts category and it didn't seem to adequately cover the arts. It was noted that a requirement has been added that students must attend at least two cultural events and submit a report on each.

- Motion by Sandie Rietz, seconded by Bruce Brumley to approve Item 56 for the Arts Category if the reference to credit for a writing course through a combination of Honors courses is removed from the syllabus.

- Motion carried with one abstention.

D. Dean Khaleel's Alumni Survey

It was cited that a survey is an illegitimate assessment of learning outcomes. However, it should be added to our list of possible assessments or as a component of our system.

It was agreed that the pros and cons of all possible assessments should be discussed. That way we can tell Northwest that we tried the survey and found that it didn't meet the need. It was further noted that a survey like this could be sent to employers.

E. NWCCU Standards and Assessment Discussion

It was noted that it may be necessary for the Committee to demonstrate to NWCCU how we have met each of the standards.

The Committee then agreed to present various forms of assessment and how they can be linked to the matrix at the next meeting.

Connie Landis – alumni survey

Susan Gilbertz – Bozeman assessment with steering committees

Sandie Rietz – simplified portfolio

Randall Gloege & Lewis Rife – capstone

Dan Gretch – embedded assessment

Bruce Brumley – Central Washington compass

The Committee will then discuss the advantages and disadvantages of each assessment strategy.

The meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Rita J. Rabe Meduna.