

COMMITTEE: Faculty Senate Service-Learning Committee

MEETING DATE: 11/9/2021

PERSON PRESIDING: Priti Desai

REGULAR MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Vera Tabakova, Priti Desai, Jill Twark, Abby Schwartz, Tristin Carpenter, Craig Becker

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Patricia (Patch) Clark, Misun Hur, Katherine Ford, Rebecca Bagley, Shelby VanHoozer

GUEST: Purificación Martínez

ACTIONS OF MEETING

Agenda Item: Approval of minutes of meeting held on 10/19/2021

Discussion: Abby to remove name “Jim Craig,” from the 10/19/21 minutes.

Action Taken: Tabakova made a motion to approve, Ford seconded. Minutes were approved as distributed with the minor edit noted above.

Assigned additional duties to: None

Agenda Item: Introduction of new member

Discussion: Shelby VanHoozer introduced herself as SGA student body representative, she is an undergraduate nursing student.

Action Taken: None

Assigned additional duties to: None

Agenda Item: Recognitions (Media): SL faculty/students for pirate profile/or First Monday

Discussion: Misun Hur, Vera Tabakova, and Jill Twark (subcommittee members for this item), explained the information they identified regarding the process of how to feature faculty/students completing SL work.

- Student and faculty profiles are handled by two different groups of people and are addressed at the college level.
- There are a certain number of students within each college that can be featured and there are preexisting backlogs of individuals to be highlighted.
- If we want to propose someone for a student profile, we must identify who that is at the student's college – then we reach out to the proper contact at their college to proceed.
- Faculty profiles work in a similar manner and are controlled at the college level and the same applies regarding a backlog of who will be featured and from which college. For example, November is the Honors College focus month.

Action Taken: Vera Tabakova or Misun Hur will reach out to Dr. Daniel Novey, and Jill Twark will reach out to Dr. Rebecca Dumlao, who have been identified as faculty members to highlight.

Assigned additional duties to: The SL committee was tasked to think of other faculty and student names to add to the list and if people have suggestions to provide those names to Vera Tabakova directly.

Agenda Item: Nursing DE course eligibility for SL designation

Discussion: Tristin Carpenter teaches in RN/BSN program and has a course in mind for a SL designation, however in reviewing of the application she had several questions about whether her Community Health Course would qualify. She discussed her course:

- A large portion of students' grades involve a service-learning project where the end product is a 30 second public service announcement (PSA). All students are online because they live all over the world.
- The assignment begins with using a survey tool to observe their community. They then go online and review their community's health needs assessment published for their county. Following that they develop their topic of what they want to address regarding community health. A written report is completed prior to their completing the PSA video.
- In the assignment, students answer questions such as: who community partners would be, who is the target population, where would you want to show your PSA, etc.?
- When Tristin reviewed the requirements for SL designation, she did not know how strict it was in terms of directly working with community members/implementing the PSA within the community. She was seeking the committee's input regarding whether this course would be considered SL based on the information she provided.

One concern was noted that direct service element to the community could be missing currently, as the PSAs were not implemented. The committee then discussed with Tristin and asked questions about the course, in addition to providing suggestions on how to frame the course to directly tie it to being considered SL. For example, Clark suggested partnering with the global classroom or another university which would then result in the work being related to serving the global community.

Action Taken: Tristin will consider the ideas prior to deciding whether she will apply for the course to be considered for SL designation.

Assigned additional duties to: None

Agenda Item: Redefinition of Service Learning discussion

Discussion: Examine our charge and if it is still current and if our committee is accomplishing what it is supposed to. For example, such questions for consideration include: 1) Redefine/ reimagine discussion of Service-Learning, 2) Is it only about the nomenclature? CEL/SL?, and 3) Reexamine our charge: Still relevant? Or need to reconsider? Discussion would include ways to encourage faculty to pursue the SL designation. 4) Revise the application form to apply for SL designation if necessary.

Dr. Purificación Martínez was invited to provide her input and comments. Discussion transpired among the SLC committee regarding her comments and the aforementioned questions.

- Based on conversations with Center for Leadership & Civic Engagement (CLCE) last year, it was expressed that many faculty members “do” community engagement in their courses but were not interested in the SL designation as they were unsure if their work fit into the current SLC framework for approval.
- Martínez thinks SLC might wish to look at our charge, see if we have or do not have definitions of SL and whether they need to be revised along with the SL course proposal process.
- Faculty Senate Committees will be asked once a year to look at their charge and see if they want to change it.
- If we want to make changes to our charge, we can do so and submit the revisions to the Committee on Committees who will then submit it to the Faculty Senate.
- We can also change forms, rubrics, etc. and would then present to faculty senate for information, not approval, just to keep them informed that this is transpiring.
- For updating the SLC course designation application, we could include how service learning is defined at ECU. At present, the form does not include a definition of SL. We should reword Item C of the application, and any other aspect of the form that needs clarity. SLC could also provide examples of projects that received SL designation to support individuals completing applications and would also demonstrate how SL is defined.
- Martínez encouraged the committee to also think about doing a periodical review of SL approved courses (e.g., WAC does an every 5-year review), what is still being offered, and are the courses adjusting to the expectations of the SLC.
- Martínez also noted that when an individual applies for SL designation of a course, the Director of the CLCE receives it first. She encouraged the SLC to have the application come directly to SLC as this is a curricular issue. This would align with how the WAC and UCC handle applications.

Action Taken: The SLC decided that three tasks should be separated: 1) reexamine and reflect on the charge, 2) redefine/ reimagine SL at ECU and explore more inclusive learning activities to considered as possible SL activities, and 3) revise the application form based on the revised definition and explore who needs to be contacted to make the change for having form sent directly to SLC rather than to CLCE/ if we wish for that. Three different task force groups can address one of each of these pieces to make this more manageable. The redefinition task was prioritized for calendar year 2021 and a subcommittee was initiated. Will pick up on reexamining the charge and application form/process in Spring 2022.

Assigned additional duties to: Tristin Carpenter, Craig Becker, and Priti Desai offered to work on redefinition task and Desai will email the SLC soliciting additional participation. Desai will send information and resources to SLC members who choose to participate. This group will meet in 2021 and have a proposed revised definition to discuss during the January 2022 SLC meeting.

Adjournment

Desai made a motion to adjourn, Becker seconded. Meeting was adjourned.

NEXT MEETING: January 11, 2021, 3:30-4:30 PM (may extend until 4:45 PM if needed). Meetings will be held via TEAMS in Spring 2022- for the remainder of the Academic Year.