Educational Policy Committee (EPC)
November 14, 2012

Present: Professors Ted Lossowski, Tom Stiadle, Susan Tabrizi and Provost Cindy Speaker (chair)

The meeting began at 10:36 a.m.

1. Approval of minutes
Motion made and seconded to approve the minutes of the November 7, 2012 meeting. Motion approved.

2. Institutional values and responsibilities and student learning outcomes
The committee continued its discussion on values, responsibilities, and outcomes. Points of discussion included the following:

- Citizenship
    - Observation made that it is not a value but more of a responsibility
- Self-reflection and continual adaption and improvement both can be fit into a value of development
- Respect
    - Concerns that "respect" does not capture that not all opinions are equal
    - What does valuing respect lead to regarding a responsibility to do as far as curriculum, co-curriculum, governance systems, etc.?
- Individuals
    - Consideration as to whether valuing people as individuals fits into the category of respect
    - What is it we really value – do we value individualism or just a certain type of individualism?
- Innovation
    - Concerns expressed that "innovation" as a value is a buzz word like sustainability
    - The current definition included is weak – is problem solving putting values into practice (so should it be a responsibility rather than a value)?
    - Innovation can be seen as connecting seemingly dissimilar ideas, seeing connections, having new ways of looking at the world. These ideas could be better captured as a skill for students derived from the value of learning
- Development
    - Always seeking to be better, seeking to improve and not resting on one's laurels
    - The student moving from recipient of knowledge to the creator of knowledge – what is needed between these two?
    - Taking responsibility for one's self – do we at times on campus create situations that allow behaviors that are undesirable (e.g., does open access to studios lead to students not cleaning up after themselves)?
    - Do we value having the initiative to take responsibility? For being accountable?

- o How do we deal with students' unrealistic goals?
- o Lifelong learning
    - o Do we really challenge students to learn? To become competent in a variety of fields?
    - o Do students engage to truly learn?
    - o Do we really value lifelong learning?
    - o The difference between knowing what you need to know to get something done (e.g., learning the latest MS Office version) vs. the desire to want to learn new things
    - o Openness

At the end of the discussion, a concern was raised that we make sure that our list is what we actually value and do and not what we aspire to value and do.

Attached find a revised version of the working document reflecting the discussions from this meeting as well as the previous one.

The meeting adjourned at 11:31 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Speaker, Provost and Dean of the College