Minutes for the CEPP Meeting October 17, 2012

In attendance: Michael Arnush (chair), Beau Breslin, Hope Casto, Chris Kopec, Bill Lewis, Josh Ness, Peter von Allmen, and Benjamin Bechand, '14 (Student Representatives).

I. Minutes from October 10 were approved with minor revisions.

II. Michael reported that the Assessment Steering Committee (ASC) was seeking a CEPP representative. It will serve as a temporary, interim body which will sunset at the end of this academic year after a permanent home has been found for assessment. It is anticipated that ASC will become a sub-committee of IPPC.

III. The issue of whether the Academic Calendar should be changed so as to make a one week Thanksgiving break possible was briefly revisited. Lacking definitive positions from faculty or students, the matter was tabled for the moment.

IV. Proposal to revise the Culture Centered Inquiry Requirement. Michael reported on his meeting with SGA Senate. Students were appreciative of the opportunity to make their views known, although the members of Senate questioned their ability to adequately represent all students. They did raise a question about the vague nature of paragraph (c) of the proposed requirement and asked if the requirement could possibly be met through shorter more intensive courses or add-ons to existing courses.

V. Discussion of other pending initiatives.

   Discussion of the Dean's Card revolved around how best to present it to the faculty, particularly with reference to the transition from the current ratings system to the new one (should the new one be enacted) and how to resolve the question about who will receive the more extensive data from the new instrument. CEPP’s role essentially is to recommend a change in the nature of the instrument so as to improve faculty teaching and enhance student learning and not necessarily to recommend a change in the reporting structure.

   The Science Literacy group reported in May 2012 and its report has already been attached to CEPP’s 2011-2012 Annual Report. CEPP will now begin to discuss how the College will move forward in implementing its recommendations, in conjunction with the science building initiative.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Kopec