

CEPP Minutes 2/9/05

Present: H. Foley, M. Hockenos, C. Joseph, R.A. Levinson (Scribe), P. Oles, M. Appell, L. Simon, G. Thompson (Chair), R. Rodrigues

1. Minutes from 1/26/05 were approved.
2. While CEPP approved the list of programs recommended by ACIS for Skidmore Study Abroad programs, it was noted that ACIS, Cori Filson, department Chairs, and the Registrar have functioned effectively in developing the list and investigating the quality of the programs. CEPP does not want to continue to “rubber stamp” a process and a system that is working well. We concluded that we need to identify the long term structure and process of program approval that better reflects and supports the current process.
3. CEPP discussed feedback from the faculty regarding the proposed Writing Requirement. Linda will speak with the Chairs this Friday morning at Academic Staff. She will also be present at the faculty forum on Friday February 11th to field questions along with a few CEPP members and English faculty.
4. CEPP began its discussion and response to the current version of the Strategic Plan 2005-2015, Engaged Liberal Learning. We used the executive summary as a starting point. Next week CEPP members will bring the entire 26 page version for review and commentary. CEPP members echoed several voices first heard in last week’s faculty meeting by emphasizing the desire to see highlighted within the first goal a statement that supports and encourages faculty scholarship and research. In the large version of the Plan, developing additional resources to support faculty research and sabbatical plans is identified under goal one as a priority. CEPP members would like to see a separate bullet in the summary section that specifically acknowledges this priority. Perhaps following the “Enhance student academic engagement in the first year,” a separate bullet could be inserted such as “Enhance research and scholarship throughout faculty careers.” Pat appreciated the strides that the document has made under Goal III: Informed, Responsible Citizenship. Pat noted that in this version what it means to become a responsible citizen at Skidmore had moved beyond the limited conception of what constitutes good and bad student behaviors. This version of Engaged Learning was crafting a definition of what it means to be responsible as a citizen at Skidmore and beyond. Next week, we will pursue with greater depth the details of the Plan that are articulated under each goal. Chuck urged us to look more closely at Goals II and III which are directly related to CEPP’s need to facilitate the Assessment Plan.
5. In regards to Assessment, Gordon reported that he had spoke with John Anzalone, Chair of CFG, about different possibilities for Skidmore’s long term assessment plan. Gordon related CEPP members’ conversation from our 2/2/05 meeting. John expressed that CFG would be quite resistant to forming any new standing committees, even one that was appointed by the VAPP, since CFG had recently invested great energy reducing the

number of faculty committees. CEPP agreed that we needed to discuss further how to achieve an assessment strategy but we tabled a more detailed discussion until later.