

Minutes for CEPP meeting of March 30, 2011

In attendance: Michael Arnush, Rochelle Calhoun, Corey Freeman-Gallant (guest), Rubén Graciani, Chris Kopec, Josh Ness, Paty Rubio (guest), Bob Turner (Chair)

- I. **Approval of Minutes.** The minutes of March 23 were approved.
- II. **Articulation Agreement for Business.** The articulation agreement between Skidmore, RIT and Syracuse was briefly discussed and endorsed.
- III. **Open Forum on Transition and Transformation.** With Corey Freeman-Gallant and Paty Rubio, the Committee discussed the upcoming open forum on April 15. The main goals of the forum are to address faculty questions and concerns, and to develop a more consistent, nuanced faculty understanding of the T&T initiative in general and high impact practices in particular. CEPP discussed the value of providing materials to the faculty in advance of the forum. We concluded that the forum would be most effective in so far as it functions as *active conversation* rather than a presentation. The forum will include a brief introduction of T&T by Bob Turner (clarifying terms, origins, and the context of the initiative within the College) and may include testimonies by several students (ideally including one that could speak to the “lived” dynamics of T&T from personal experience and another from SGA that can offer an informed student perspective on the plan). Rochelle Calhoun, Corey Freeman-Gallant and others (e.g., a representative from the Health Care Advisory Committee, acting president Susan Kress) may speak extemporaneously as deemed appropriate during the discussion, but will not give formal presentations. Admissions and/or Advancement representatives will not be able to attend the forum due to conflicts (prospective student day).

We reiterated (and vowed to reiterate to others) that internships are only one of a variety of “high impact experiences”, and that the experiences advocated in this initiative are intended to integrate elements of the larger undergraduate experience in a manner consistent with foundational visions for the College. They support opportunities to *link theory and practice* (“praxis”).

Study abroad was discussed as a compelling example of how a high impact experience was initially constrained by a lack of institutional support, decentralized organization (i.e., individual programs largely supported by efforts of individual faculty) and limited access for students in some disciplines. The modern Study Abroad Office has relieved faculty of the need to supervise the programs (even as they retained a high degree of influence and approval over particular programs) and diversified the opportunities for students. Study abroad is now a centerpiece of the College. Further, the initial investment in that “experience” ultimately engendered substantial financial support for other programs.

IV. **The Roles CEPP and FEC in the Forum.** We discussed the nature of the relationship between CEPP and FEC as it pertains to this forum. Our understanding is that FEC “hosts” the forum but that CEPP is responsible for the content. CEPP and FEC will clarify these dynamics before the forum.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Josh Ness