Bergen Community College
Committee on General Education
Meeting of April 2, 2013
Minutes

Members present: Louis Crescitelli, Andrew Baddish, Benicia D’Sa, Ilan Ehrlich, Gary Correa, Tracy Saltwick, Andrew Krikun, Michael Redmond, Joshua Guttman, Denise Budd, Danielle Coppola, Bridget Connolly, Margaret McLaughlin, Beth Pincus, Barbara Walcott, and Judi Davis

Guests: None

A. Last Meeting: The minutes of 3-5-2013 meeting were approved as written (15-0-1).

B. Chairperson’s report: Judi Davis reported:

1. We received news on March 8, 2013 that we were not accepted to attend the AAC &U week-long conference on General Education and Assessment in Burlington, Vermont. It was hoped that this workshop would provide expert assistance to the team to help it develop a plan for assessment of GE that is suited for our GE Program. I received an email from Ashley Finely from AAC&U explaining feedback from the committee who reviewed our application:

   “In reviewing Bergen CC’s proposal it struck us that because your current goals are primarily focused on accreditation that you might benefit from having a consultant out to work more directly with you. A consultant could give more targeted feedback, which might help allay some of the accreditation pressures you’re currently under. There are other options as well, including organizing conversations on campus around feedback from MCSHE or attending the AAC&U network conference on assessment (IUPUI also has an excellent assessment conference in the fall), but we felt a consultant might be the best option in terms of timing. If this is a path you’d like to pursue, let me know if you’d like recommendations. We do consulting at AAC&U but we also work with a number of people at both 2 and 4 year institutions who are wonderful consultants.”

2. I met again with Dr. Yun Kim on March 12 to discuss what to do next with the GE Assessment Plan. She suggested that we root the plan in Institutional Goals. The closest there is to “Institutional Goals” are the Core Competencies and it is not clear whether or not the college is using these to guide assessment. I plan to attend the Senate Meeting April to lead a discussion about the role of core competencies at BCC. I have had questions about this myself as I reviewed assessment reports from the departments for some data about GE. Some reports use core competencies as a basis, some use GE goals, and some use both. Our own GE documents state that the core competencies grew out of the GE goals, but I am not so sure about that.

3. In any case, I’d like to get a sense of the “body” about whether to use the CC’s and “map them” to the GE goals, or the reverse, or to overlook the CC’s, as happened for about two or three years when Peter Dlugos was VP because it made the curriculum mapping cleaner.
4. The Senate passed the “Proposal on Student Selection of GE Courses” at its meeting on March 12m 2013. This proposal was suggested by George Cronk and approved GE Committee at the March 5, 2013 meeting.

5. There is a meeting scheduled for 4-9-2013 before the Spring Faculty Conference with AVP Mullaney, Dr. Yun Kim, officers of the Senate, and the ad hoc committee that wrote the General Education Assessment plan. The GEAC still wants to use the plan in some way, shape or form so as to show Middle States that we are pursuing some form of centralized assessment. The hope is that this group will come up with some more definitive plan for the implementation of GE Assessment.

D. New Business
1. INF 1XX Introduction to Computing (1 credit, 2 lab hours) was approved with minor editorial revisions suggested by committed including revision to Student Learning Outcome 1, “Articulate definitions of Information Technology terms.” Motion passed by a vote of 15-0-1.
2. A discussion was held about the existing Core Competencies, BCC GE Goals and the LEAP Essential Learning Outcomes. In order the facilitate GE Assessment process the general consensus of the committee was to eliminate the use of the Core Competencies and replace them with the suggested Essential Learning Outcomes developed by the AAC & U’s LEAP Project (Liberal Education and America’s Promise).

E. Old Business

F. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 1:30 PM
Respectfully submitted,
Judi Davis, Chair