

Teaching and Learning Committee (Dec. 2008)

12/09/08, 2:30-4:00

Present: Chris Baer, Tom Crawford, Jerry Haines (co-chair), Rosemary Nickerson, Dawn Schoenenberger, Tom Seward (co-chair), Steve Shank

Absent: Angie Auldridge, Terri-Lee Hall (associate member), Zanna Moran,

The minutes from the October meeting were reviewed and approved as amended.

The library policy, approved by the Faculty in its November meeting, will probably go to board for approval unless Dr. Altieri has suggestions or reservations as yet undisclosed.

Chris Baer and Angie Auldridge had sent e-mails to the other members concerning their investigation of references to or definitions of “credit hours”, in anticipation of not being free to attend. Chris was present, nevertheless, and reported on his findings: the Allegany catalog does give a COMAR definition of credit hours. Hartford did not make any reference to credit hours. Angie had found something very similar: Cecil defined credit hours according to COMAR, while FCC did not mention them.

In the discussion that ensued, the question was raised as to whether some mention of an upper limit be made for courses whose hours of lab, studio, practicum, etc. exceed the COMAR standards and opinions for and against were presented. No consensus was established however.

The matter of the inclusion of a definition of “credit hours” and specific mention of hours of lecture, lab, etc. in HCC’s catalog and class schedule/brochure was tentatively resolved as follows. 1) Yes to the definition in the catalog. 2) Yes to the mention of lecture, lab, etc. hours in the course descriptions in the catalog, 3) Undecided concerning the class schedule/ brochure/web page (perhaps unnecessary).

Chris Baer had our list of charges handy and read the one concerning credit hours to keep us on track. It states:

“To establish written credit to contact hour standards, as it impacts students, for lecture, lab, clinical and other experiential courses, as well as independent study.”

The committee then focused its attention on the gray area of clinical, experiential courses, etc. Apparently we have a fairly clear idea about clinicals, internships and tutorials.

Dawn Schoenenberger found the definition of “independent study” in the catalog to help clear up a misunderstanding. Jerry Haines pointed out his quandary with MUA’s (music instrumental lessons), and PE courses listed ASA or CLA.

For the January meeting, the committee members were asked to investigate the matter of tutorials in their respective divisions and at the community colleges already assigned to them.

Tom Seward