

**Report to the Faculty Senate
From the Liberal Studies Coordinating and Policy Committee (LSCPC)
Academic Year 2019-20**

Membership

James Fadool, Arts and Sciences, Chair
Lisa Tripp, Motion Picture Arts (UPC)
Michelle Rambo-Roddenberry, Engineering
Piers Rawling, Arts and Sciences
Douglass Seaton, Music (Honors)
Michelle Therrien, Social Sciences & Public Policy
Don Latham, Communication and Information (UCC)

Ex officio:

Karen Laughlin – Dean of Undergraduate Studies
Lynn Hogan – Director of Liberal Studies, Dean of Undergraduate Studies designee
Joseph O’Shea - Vice President for Academic Affairs designee

Guest Participant:

Allison Peters – Office of Liberal Studies
Lindsey Charlton – Office of Liberal Studies

The role of the Liberal Studies Coordinating and Policy Committee is to promote liberal education and provide oversight for the liberal studies curriculum and University-wide undergraduate requirements. The LSCPC also develops and oversees course approval criteria and processes as well as the development of policies and processes related to assessment of student learning and outcomes.

The committee met seven times during the academic year. Several policy items were discussed and two were approved by the Faculty Senate in March 2020.

1. The LSCPC recommended that successful completion of an E-series course no longer be a Liberal Studies requirement. E-series courses would continue to count towards the “W” State-Mandated Writing requirement and fulfill an approved general education requirement or Scholarship in Practice requirement. The approved policy would also allow senior graduate students to teach E-series courses with approval of their chair.
2. LSCPC proposed that the six hours of LS General Education Electives must be completed from the approved list of FSU Liberal Studies Courses without any limitation on the General Education Area. Students will continue to be required to complete 36 hours of Liberal Studies General Education coursework from the lists of approved courses. However, current limitations placed on meeting the 6 hours of General Education Electives and several exceptions posed considerable advising challenges and student confusion. Removing the limitations and exceptions will allow greater flexibility in meeting the 6 hours of electives.

The LSCPC discussed eliminating the Computer Competency Requirement (CCR) from the General Education requirements. The LSCPC was of the opinion that the CCR has been very successful in achieving the initial goals. Furthermore, the data showed that CCR has evolved into a major or discipline-specific technology requirement, outpacing the minimal requirements for a course to obtain General Education CCR approval. After presentation at the FS meeting, it was decided that in Fall 2020, an ad hoc committee will be formed to evaluate and make recommendations of potential changes to the CCR that better meet today's and future needs and challenges. The LSCPC will report back to the Faculty Senate.

The LSCPC has been engaged with the Liberal Studies office in the development of a survey to measure student learning outcomes in General Education courses which are part of Liberal Studies requirements. The overall goal is to track how well the Liberal Studies program contributes to the development of students based upon an assessment and reporting by faculty of students meeting Learning Objectives. The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) requires that we assess General Education courses. Work on the assessment will continue Summer 2020 for a roll-out in Fall 2020.

The LSCPC wants to acknowledge the many members of the Liberal Studies Course Review Panel for the reviews and constructive feedback they provide to instructors on course development and design. We are grateful for their continued service.

Respectfully submitted for the LSCPC,
James M. Fadool