

**Report to the Faculty Senate  
From the Liberal Studies Coordinating and Policy Committee (LSCPC)  
Academic Year 2016-2017**

**The Committee**

Members of the LSCPC for AY 2016-2017 were:

James Fadool, Biological Science, Arts and Sciences  
Kris Harper, History, Arts and Sciences\*  
Mark Kearley, Chemistry and Biochemistry, Arts and Sciences  
Reginald Perry, Electrical and Computer Engineering, Engineering\*  
Piers Rawling, Philosophy, Arts and Sciences  
Annette Schwabe, Sociology, Social Sciences and Public Policy, Chair  
Lisa Tripp, Motion Picture Arts\*  
Eric Walker, English, Arts and Sciences  
Lisa Waxman, Interior Design, College of Fine Arts

*\*Also a member of the LSCPC Review Sub-Committee.*

Non-voting members of the LSCPC for AY 2016-2017 were:

Karen Laughlin, Dean of Undergraduate Studies (Ex-Officio)  
Joe O'Shea, Assistant Provost (Ex-Officio, Representative for Provost McRorie)

**Purview**

The LSCPC develops policies and procedures related to the General Education and University-wide undergraduate curricula and oversees Liberal Studies course approvals, assessment, and program evaluation.

**Accomplishments**

The LSCPC was highly active and effective during the 2016-2017 academic year, which was a time of major transition in the program. The LSCPC met seven times during the academic year (September, October, November, December, January, February, and April). The major accomplishments of the LSCPC included:

- 1) Curriculum Development.
  - Expanded the Liberal Studies review committee from roughly 15 members at the beginning of the academic year to over 45 members currently and implemented a logical process for selecting reviewers based on area expertise, frequency of reviews, and other factors to reduce reviewer load while increasing the pace of completed reviews.
  - Simplified the Curriculum Request Application (CRA) portal to increase efficiency of the work by course reviewers and requestors.
  - Revised and clarified student learning objectives for Upper-Division Writing based on feedback from instructors.
  - Created a comprehensive process for students to receive credit for Formative Experiences. Formative Experiences were a part of the curriculum that was added in 2014-2015, for which there was no mechanism for students to meet the requirement nor for departments to offer them.
  - Developed revised policies on OCCR courses and modified learning objectives based on input from the UPC. The final draft will be submitted to the Faculty Senate Steering Committee for review during their August or September meeting.
- 2) Assessment and Evaluation.
  - Collected and analyzed quantitative and qualitative data on faculty perceptions of the Liberal Studies program from a faculty survey requested by the Faculty Senate Steering Committee (FSSC) in preparation for a vote by the Faculty Senate.
  - Collected and summarized data from the pilot assessment of General Education in Spring 2016.
  - Revised the sampling plan for the 2017 assessment of General Education to minimize error and maximize validity and reliability. Developed and administered a user-friendly Qualtrics survey for the 2017 data collection. Results continue to come in.
  - Completed and analyzed a qualitative and quantitative survey of E-Series faculty and students to identify the effectiveness of particular pedagogical methods used in E-Series courses and to identify the value of these courses for particular learning outcomes. Four UROP students were trained to assist with analysis and presented initial findings at the Spring 2017 Undergraduate Research Symposium.

- 3) External Program Work.
  - Collaborated on the *2017 Senator Paul Simon Campus Internationalization Award* submission. FSU received the award in February 2017.
  - Led a team of five faculty members to participate in the Institute for Pedagogy in the Liberal Arts (IPLA), Oxford, Georgia, May 2016. The purpose was to develop faculty-based leadership in pedagogy to enhance undergraduate education at FSU.
  - Developed a successful proposal to participate in the Associate of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) with a team of five FSU faculty members in Boston, MA, June 2016. The focus was on developing effective assessment for General Education and aligning curriculum development with assessment. Final report submitted to AAC&U June 8, 2016.
  - Presented on FSU's General Education assessment processes at the SUS Accreditation and Assessment meeting in Orlando, Summer 2016.
  - Presented an overview of the recent Liberal Studies curriculum transition and led a problem-based workshop on General Education reform at the meetings of the Association for General and Liberal Studies, Salt Lake City, October 2016.
- 4) Communication of Liberal Studies Policy to Students, Advisors, Faculty, and Administrators.
  - Significant re-design of the Liberal Studies website based on feedback from users.
  - Significant modification of materials that summarize student requirements for Liberal Studies, including the *Undergraduate Bulletin*.
  - Developed a "WOW" report – Who Offers What? – to provide departments with data about their Liberal Studies course offerings and enrollments.
  - Provided a luncheon workshop for E-Series faculty to present an overview of the E-Series study methods and preliminary results and to elicit additional qualitative data from faculty on their perceptions of and suggestions for the E-Series program in the future.
- 5) Transitioned the Liberal Studies curriculum and requirements from the pilot phase to final approval by the Faculty Senate.
  - Presented updates and proposed policy changes to the Faculty Senate three times (September 21, November 16, January 18), and requested votes on specific policy changes throughout the academic year.
  - Proposed an official curriculum on which the Faculty Senate voted in January of 2017. The Faculty Senate approved the proposal unanimously.

### Statistical Overview

- 1) Funding Provided for E-Series:
  - The total amount of enrollment funding for AY 2016-2017 was \$560,160.
  - The total amount for course development funding for AY2016-2017 was \$96,800.

### 2) Course Development and Capacity Data

<b>Enrollment Data for Areas of Concern Regarding Seat Availability</b>				
		<b>AY 2015-2016</b>	<b>AY 2016-2017</b>	<b>Percent Change</b>
<b>E-Series</b>	Total Enrollment	5,685	6,624	17%
	Enrollment Capacity	6,139	7,302	19%
<b>Ethics</b>	Total Enrollment	4,718	6,890	46%
	Enrollment Capacity	5,285	7,355	39%
<b>Upper-Division Writing</b>	Total Enrollment	7,401	8,603	16%
	Enrollment Capacity	8,636	10,110	17%

<b>Numbers of Approved Courses by General Education Area or Graduation Requirement Designation (as of July 19, 2017)</b>			
<b>Area/Designation</b>	<b>Approved</b>	<b>Approved and Active<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Pending Approval</b>
Quantitative and Logical Thinking	20	20	0
English Composition	2	2	0
Social Sciences	59	53	5
History	49	47	3
Humanities and Cultural Practice	150	145	9
Ethics	41	41	2
Natural Sciences	68	66	5
<b>E-Series (total)</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>7</b>
Quantitative and Logical Thinking	3	3	0
Social Sciences	30	26	0
History	16	15	1
Humanities and Cultural Practice	61	59	2
Ethics	25	25	2
Natural Sciences	14	13	2
Scholarship in Practice	20	20	1
"W" (State-Mandated Writing)	88	84	2
Scholarship in Practice	93	91	22
Cross-Cultural Studies (X)	88	85	10
Diversity in Western Experience (Y)	69	62	2
Upper-Division Writing	63 <sup>2</sup>	63	20
Oral Communication Competency	47	47	6
Computer Competency	41	41	3

<sup>1</sup>"Active" courses are those that have been offered since Fall 2015 or that have been approved within the past 12 months.

<sup>2</sup>Up from 19 in June 2016. This counts only UDW courses proper, not the additional 45 Honors in the Major thesis courses which also fulfill students' UDW requirement.

I thank the members of the LSCPC for their thoughtful work on the committee and for their dedication to developing an effective curriculum and program. I also wish to acknowledge the members of the Liberal Studies Course Review Panel (LSCRCP) for their constructive feedback on courses and on the Liberal Studies review process. Members of the LSCRCP are listed on the Liberal Studies website at the bottom of this page:

<http://liberalstudies.fsu.edu/who-we-are.html>

Respectfully Submitted,



Annette M. Schwabe

Chair of the Liberal Studies Coordinating and Policy Committee and Director of Liberal Studies