Forum Meeting Wednesday, September 18, 2013

In Attendance: Brian Ammons, David Coffey, Stan Cross, Teresa Imfeld, Chris Kypriotis, Jen Mozolic, Philip Otterness, Sloan Poe, Dulan Suter, Candace Taylor, and Evan Wantland.

Call to order: 4:10

Minutes of the April 24, 2013 meeting approved as published.

Read into the Minutes: In order to provide a record of his action, President Steven Solnick sent the following via email dated 9-18-2013:

I approve the two policies attached: Substantive Change, and Harassment and Discrimination. As to the policy on Indemnification, I want to be sure that it has been reviewed by our College counsel as part of the drafting and approval process. If not, I'd like to have that opinion in hand before final approval.

Continuing Business (by virtue of prior publication)

"The Aims of a Liberal Arts Education at Warren Wilson College," proposed by the Vice President for Academic Affairs upon the recommendation of the Faculty Body. Published via agenda attachment 9-18-13 and presented by Mellisa Blair, Director of General Education. Since the motion did not come from the Academic Policy Committee, a second was sought and obtained. The policy proposal was presented with the understanding that, while the first two paragraphs of the document provide background and rationale, the final paragraph constitutes the text of the proposed new policy. After a brief presentation by Ms Blair, an email from Representative Katie Green, who was absent from the meeting on College business, was read to open the discussion. In the course of discussion representatives raised the following main concerns:

- 1) The proposal would require the addition of a capstone course or changes in the content of the capstone course for at least one academic major.
- 2) There appears not to have been an attempt to determine staffing and other costs of the proposed general education program, e.g. there is no clear indication of the number of new faculty needed to support the language requirement.
- 3) The "social justice" descriptor in the "values" portion of the curriculum does not appear to be sufficiently broad to include "diversity" issues not directly a mater of justice and in a way not remedied by the addition of the "international perspective" descriptor.

During a community comment period, the concern over the "social justice" descriptor being too narrow to include courses focused on racial and ethnic diversity was also raised.

The Aims of a Liberal Arts Education proposal was approved for recommendation to the President by a vote of ten (10) in favor and one (1) opposed.

New Business

A "Revised Tuition Remission Policy" proposal was received from Alan Russell, Interim Vice President for Administration and Finance, via email forwarded by President Solnick on 9-17-2013 and distributed to the Forum. As described by President Solnick, the revision "limits tuition remission to tuition-only, excluding room and board for any dependents matriculating after Spring 2014. It also waives any potential future application fee for WWC dependents/spouses/partners." After a brief discussion the matter was placed on the addenda for the October 16, 2013 meeting.

Adjourned at 4:55 until 4:00, October 16, 2013