

**Liberal Studies Review Committee**  
**Wednesday, February 5, 2014**  
**10:00 a.m. ED 316**

**Members Present:** Rajee Amarasinghe, Nan Barker, Paul Crosbie, Susan Macy, Jim Marshall, James Mullooly, Robert Powell, Susan Schlievert

**Guests:** Jessica Choy, Johnny Conley

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 am.

**Approval of the Minutes**

The minutes were approved as presented.

**Approval of the Agenda**

The agenda was approved as presented.

**New Business**

- **Update, focus, goals of Liberal Studies Review Committee**
  - Susan discussed some negative public perceptions of the Liberal Studies program across campus and how to improve it. Enrollment for the LS program has ebbed and flowed over the years depending on the overall job market for teachers. At one time, it had been the largest program on campus. The committee noted that this year the job market has vastly improved with both Fresno Unified and Clovis Unified seeking to hire more than 150 new teachers each for the next school year due to decreasing class sizes and openings due to retirements.
  - Robert also said there is an increased awareness in their departments for the need to replace faculty with full time tenure track faculty who are able to teach some of the LS required classes.
  - Nan suggested making a collective presentation to the deans to show the financial and enrollment needs for that faculty, taking into consideration a campus wide initiative for graduation rates and student initiative.
- **Member's Backgrounds**

Committee members shared their childhood backgrounds and what brought them into the teaching profession.
- **California Community College Baccalaureate Degree Proposal**

Susan distributed a report from the California Community College (CCC) Baccalaureate Degree Study Group that studied the basic issue of awarding baccalaureates at California community colleges. The committee discussed the implications that would have on Fresno State and other four-year colleges.
- **Annual conference March 14, 2014**

The spring liberal studies conference is now the Joint Higher Education Symposium on Common Core State Standards & New ELD Standards. It will be held at Fresno State on Friday, March 14 from 8:30 am to 1 pm at

the North Gym 118. The event will include keynote speakers, breakout sessions, a continental breakfast and lunch. It is open to all community college and university faculty and staff.

### **Continuing Business**

The continuing business of the Liberal Studies Concentrations, SOAP and Technology Goal were moved to the next meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am.

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 19, 2014 in ED 316 and consequently on the first and third Wednesdays of each month