SI Committee
November 9, 2011

Present: Liane Houghtalin, Esther Yook, Anand Rao, Danny Tweedy, Dawn Bowen, Marie Sheckels

Minutes of 9/28 meeting approved.

The following course proposals and actions were approved by the SI Committee:

- PSYC 362: Research Methods in Psychology (Erchull, SI instructor)
- PSYC 411: Research Seminar in Abnormal, Personality, or Social Psychology (all instructors)
- PSYC 412: Research Seminar in Biological Psychology (all instructors)
- PSYC 413: Research Seminar in Cognition or Learning (all instructors)
- PSYC 414: Research Seminar in Developmental Psychology (all instructors)
- PSYC 491 designation moved from 491 to new PSYC 492: Individual Research

Discussion of Faculty SI Learning Outcomes (LO) Survey:

Tim O'Donnell joined us for discussion of learning outcomes. Survey results – 32 faculty responded, and some patterns emerged. Clearly every SI course cannot achieve all LOs. Anand believes that there needs to be consistency in SI outcomes across the board. There was general agreement from committee members. The question, however, is how to do this?

These are across-the-curriculum courses. In an ideal world, we would have a basic COMM course required of all students, but that is not practical. Can we create shared outcomes? Can we have two courses (similar to the Arts, Literature, and Performance Gen Ed requirement, where one course focuses on process and the other on appreciation). One of these SI courses would, for example, have a final required presentation; one would not.

Anand presented an idea for how to create two sets of LOs. One idea was to incorporate some SI outcomes within the FSEM. This would create a little bit more uniformity across FSEMs. He will consult with the FSEM Comm about this.

Another idea is to have some type of hybrid learning experience, using videos on line and quizzes on content. For a capstone experience in SI, could we have a student produce a video on how they would use specific skills in a presentation? They would reflect on communication theory. Not an onerous task. Is this something that we want to pursue with the Outcomes Assessment Committee?

Finally, could we have experts create modules for professors to use in courses or have students do them on their own? Additional modules?

Anand will continue working on this for FSEM, basic SI course, and then modules. Tim suggested that he discuss this with the QEP committee chair.

Speaking Center Report: Esther Yook –Octoberfest went well. Good foot traffic in the center.

Meeting adjourned at 4:55 pm