ITEM 1.  Gordon Rule Policy

Discussion: The committee reviewed Gordon Rule policies from other similar institutions. In the course of that discussion, it was noted that in 1993, the College adopted a “Writing across the Curriculum” approach. The identification of courses throughout the general education curriculum as Gordon Rule courses was part of the effort to create this “Writing across the Curriculum” approach. Over the years, however, the idea of grading writing across the curriculum appears to have lost its emphasis.

The committee drafted a sample Gordon Rule policy which includes specific requirements for writing assignments. It also specifies which types of assignments are acceptable and which are not. The committee also recommended that a word count be reinstated for Gordon Rule classes, although the actual word count would differ depending on the discipline.

A question was raised as to whether Gordon Rule writing requirements should be required in science classes. Professor Tcherina Duncombe will speak to her colleagues to gather their opinions and will report back to the committee at the next meeting. Ana Porro will speak to the Chair of the Math Department to find out if a similar requirement would make sense for math classes. She will also report back to the committee at the next meeting.

Data source: None
Action: Ms. Shub will type up the draft of the recommended Gordon Rule policy and send it to all the committee members for their review. Once the committee agrees on a final version, Ms. Shub will send it to Dr. Sass for her review.

Professors Duncombe and Porro will report back to the committee on the appropriateness of fitting the Gordon Rule to the Sciences and Mathematics, respectively.

ITEM 2. Turnitin.com

Discussion: Connie Tuisku updated the committee on the Turnitin activities that are taking place. Most notably, there is a Turnitin Teachers Tour scheduled for October 9th. This coincides with the College’s Development Day, so no one from the committee will be able to attend. However, Ms. Tuisku spoke to the Custom Programs Manager from Turnitin and will be following up with him about organizing programs locally.

Data source: None

Action: None

Submitted by: Helen Shub, Scribe