**New York City College of Technology**

**Interdisciplinary Committee**

March 3, 2015

Reneta D. Lansiquot, Founding Chair

Sean P. MacDonald, Secretary

**Present**: Reneta D. Lansiquot, Sean P. MacDonald, Monica Berger, Dionne Bennett, Reginald Blake, Candido Cabo, Ezra Halleck, Jean Hillstrom, Laina Karthikeyan, Rebecca Shapiro, Andleeb Zameer, Urmi Ghosh-Dastidar, Janet Liou-Mark, Laureen Park, Johannah Rodgers, Olufemi Sodeinde, Andleeb Zameer, Rebecca Shapiro

**Absent:** Gwen Cohen-Brown, Aida Egues, Paul C. King

**Excused**: Robert Leston

1. Approval of minutes from February 3, 2015: Motion to approve: Laureen; second: Reneta

With correction to typo “reimaging a course” Approved unanimously.

1. Reneta presented finalized Interdisciplinary Courses brochure for students.

We need 15-17 ID course sections to run in the fall 2015 semester; Laureen is working on a new ID logic course with math; also the proposed ECON 2820 Behavioral Economics ID course will likely obtain final approval from College’s Curriculum Committee, so this course may be offered in spring 2016. Whether it is offered depends upon when it is entered into the Chancellor’s report.

1. Current proposal for review: ENG 1161, Language and Thinking: Laina and Gwen will review the course proposal; review should be completed one week before our next meeting on March 31.
2. Urmi suggested that the creators of the LIB/ARCH 2205 course could discuss the challenges and benefits of this new course; the flyer should include a list all the current ID course listings. We need to have the most updated list of courses for the brochure. By fall we should have an updated list with the special topics ID courses in time to be included in the brochure.

Urmi asked what should be presented? What should be the focus? Discussion: perhaps the new courses LIB/ARCH 2205 Learning Places: Understanding the City and ARTH 2101 Healing the Body: The Visual Culture of Medicine. Reneta suggested course designers/proposers focus on primary source research for both of these, talk briefly about what the courses are about. Perhaps 100 brochures would be needed (one page); the links and the QR codes will be included so students can be directed to sections of each course. Also, information sessions on sections could be included on a separate flyer. Jean will have an idea of what ID courses will be offered soon. Although Behavioral Economics could be offered if it gets into the Chancellor’s report, but it may not be offered regardless since Gulgun will be on leave during fall 2015. There will be an IDC workshop on May 27 for faculty to convert an existing course to an ID course.

1. Dionne reported that if Marta isn’t going to teach Black NY nest semester, then she will teach it. In terms of her Working Group, her preference is to call it a workshop.

Dionne reported that Marta will speak March 23, and an email will be sent out about the event. The theme is “Staging Migrations across Interdisciplinary Boundaries: Race, Gender and Culture” and the event will be held from 3:00–4:30 PM in Namm 119. The audience will include both students and faculty. The event will function as first activity of the Race, Gender and Culture workshop. She also suggested collaboration between African American Studies and the Interdisciplinary Committee could be cultivated. A flyer promoting the March 23 event will be developed and sent out shortly. Dionne encouraged IDC members to attend and encourage our students to come as this can help sustain discourse on this topic and theme.

Reneta suggested Dionne reach out to Monique Ferrell and to Julia Jordan for assistance in promoting the event. Jean noted that a new course in progress on race and culture is being developed by Amanda Almond and Rob MacDougall in the Social Science Dept. so this could be a way to further the exchange on the theme. Dionne noted that people doing research could exchange ideas about what they want to work on; the readings and writings they want to present at conferences and could get feedback from others. Reneta asked what we want to go from there. Dionne suggested another meeting to plan anything going forward, and to see what happens. Feedback from the committee members suggested that it would be a good idea for this workshop theme to be a series that is ongoing; presentations on works in progress; a panel of faculty (and maybe students) could do presentations on their topics, so this could build and expand.

1. Ezra stated he needs some help with gaining IRB approval for the student survey; the poster is already completed so the focus is just the need for the survey and contest. Jean pointed out that he should talk to Eric Rodriguez regarding the IRB process for conducting the survey or applying for an exemption. Reneta asked if Ezra can send the questions around to the committee and then contact Eric re: the IRB process. This is really the first step.
2. Upcoming IDC workshop, May 27th, 2015: This will be a one-day workshop.
3. Next meeting: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 at 2:15

Motion to adjourn: Reneta.