

New York City College of Technology
Interdisciplinary Committee
January 28, 2014

Reneta D. Lansiquot, Founding Chair

Present: Monica Berger (Webmaster), Reginald A. Blake, Justin Davis, Jean E. Kubeck Hillstrom, Laina Karthikeyan, Janet Liou-Mark, Sean P. MacDonald, Laureen Park, Robert Leston, Andleeb Zameer

Absent: Gwen Cohen Brown, Candido Cabo, Aida Egues (excused), Urmi Ghosh-Dastidar (excused), Paul King (excused), Ezra Halleck (excused), Kara Pasner, Johannah Rodgers (excused), Rebecca Shapiro (non-voting member), David B. Smith, Olufemi Sodeinde (excused)

Guest: Dionne Bennett

Chair Reneta D. Lansiquot called the meeting to order at 2:30 PM

1. Minutes from December 12, 2013 meeting were approved.
2. Janet discussed our joint Interdisciplinary Committee (IDC)-Undergraduate Research Committee (URC) event scheduled for January 21, 2014.
3. Jean solicited feedback to improve the “Existing Course Review” form and she will update the form ahead of the next IDC meeting.
4. There is no progress to report regarding implementation of College Option interdisciplinary liberal arts and science course designation.
5. We discussed ways to publicize the College Option interdisciplinary liberal arts and sciences course requirement.

Jean and Laina volunteered to present information on developing interdisciplinary courses at the next School of Arts & Sciences Chairs Meeting on Tuesday, February 18. Jean will create a flyer and email her draft to IDC members for feedback.

Reggie suggested reaching out to students and having interdisciplinary project presentations during Research Day. Reneta noted that her Weird Science class will attend the Research Mixer on May 7 from 3-5 PM in Namm 119, so her students will discuss their interdisciplinary projects and term research papers during this time.

Monica pointed out that the college has had a few interdisciplinary public lectures and that this should continue. She volunteered to find out specific information about a successful Hostos Community College campaign.

Dionne proposed running a student interdisciplinary projects contest. We all agreed that this idea was worth pursuing. A few members of the IDC noted that this may be modelled after the General Education Committee's recent student contest, but pointed out that it would take a lot of careful planning, and, as a result, we would need about a semester to prepare.

6. Chairs of subcommittees should be prepared to explain their plans for next semester during our next meeting.
 - Reneta D. Lansiquot (Chair, New Courses subcommittee)
 - Jean E. Kubeck Hillstrom and Sean P. MacDonald (Co-Chairs, Existing Courses subcommittee)
 - Janet Liou-Mark (Chair, Course Development subcommittee)
 - Monica Berger and Urmi Ghosh-Dastidar (Co-Chairs, Social Outreach subcommittee)
7. Next meeting Tuesday, February 25 after College Council, at approximately 2 PM.

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 3:30 PM.