**Appendix A to Senate minutes 4/27/15**

**Recommendation to Pilot Inquiry Seminars for 2015-2017**

Clarion University Faculty Senate recommends to the President the implementation of a program for piloting the use of **inquiry seminars** (*see* attached overview and description) for potential inclusion in Clarion’s General Education Program.

The following conditions constitute the fundamental parameters under which this pilot program will operate:

1. Inquiry seminars will be staffed by regular faculty on a purely volunteer basis
2. Deans of the relevant colleges have the right to reject an inquiry seminar from being placed on the schedule of courses
3. Faculty teaching inquiry seminars will be provided training before and during the pilot program
4. Inquiry seminars will contain no more than 25 students all of whom must be new freshmen
5. Department chairs and advisors will be asked to consider placing new freshmen into these seminars
6. The cost of inquiry seminars will be paid for by the Academic Affairs RC, i.e., by the Provost’s Office
7. Student-learning outcomes assessments (*see* attached overview and SLO rubrics) will be conducted by ISLAC (or some associated assessment body) in each of the pilot years of each section of each inquiry seminar and reports on these assessment will be provided to Faculty Senate on a regular basis
8. Academic Affairs will set benchmarks for the success of inquiry seminars in terms of recruitment of new students; retention of continuing students; and resource allocation, will annually assess whether these benchmarks have been met, and will report on these assessments to Faculty Senate
9. Senate will either create an ad hoc committee to develop the document to present to CCPS or Senate ask CCPS to task this to the Council on General Education, depending on the status of the bylaws.

In Spring 2017, Faculty Senate will review all relevant assessment reports on the institutional effectiveness of inquiry seminars and will write a summative report for presentation to CCPS, via the appropriate committee in item ix. CCPS will then make a recommendation regarding whether or not to add inquiry seminars to the General Education Program. If CCPS makes a positive recommendation to add inquiry seminars to the General Education Program, it will also be tasked with restructuring the General Education Program to accommodate these seminars. CCPS will then forward its full recommendation (positive or negative) to Faculty Senate for consideration at the end of AY 2016-17. Faculty Senate will then vote on whether to accept, reject, or amend the recommendation of CCPS.