Task Force on Future of CLAS
Minutes of June 27, 2012

Task force members attending: David Foster, Martin Heesacker, Jean Larson, Michael D. Martinez, Carolyn Tucker, Mary Watt, and Rick Yost.
Task force members absent: Robert DAmico, Bonnie Effros,
Liaisons absent: Scott Nygren (UF Faculty Senate), John Palmer (CLAS Faculty Council), David Richardson (Dean’s Office)

Michael Martinez began the meeting at 3:30 pm in 150 Pugh Hall where he had arranged the tables in an arc so we could see one another and the white board where he had sketched the three column headings and three row headings from the spreadsheet sent by email by Marty Heesacker. The minutes of June 11, 2012 were approved.

Martinez called for the committee to review the ideas circulated in email by members since the last meeting, reminded us our goal was to prepare a report to the Faculty Council and the Dean’s Office, and shared Finance Committee experience that meetings with departments were helpful in preparing faculty and departments for the changes that are in the works due to the budget cuts and implementation of RCM.

We started to delineate three big topics: (a) Florida Virtual University, (b) Community Engagement, and (c) Internationalization. After a brief discussion of what was meant by civic engagement, we turned to the Florida Virtual University as the one that calls for rapid reaction.

We discussed strengths of CLAS that position it for a leadership role in the development and operation of the Florida Virtual University, what is already in place in the Florida Virtual Campus, and some likely directions of emphasis: STEM in general, computer science in particular, internationalization, global and culturally sensitive citizenship.

As the time for our meeting drew to a close, we discussed dissemination of our preliminary thoughts to the Dean, the Provost, department chairs and, in the fall, to the faculty, possibly in departmental meetings. Michael Martinez and Marty Heesacker will speak with the Dean; Rick Yost and Mary Watt will speak with the Provost; Jean Larson and Carolyn Tucker will develop a one-page white paper; David Foster will head to the Adirondacks.

The next meeting of the Task Force will be 3:30-5:00 pm on Wednesday, July 11, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Larson