A. Major issues addressed by the committee during the 2013–14 year
   1. Interpretation and dissemination of the 2013 survey: Neil Carson of the SRC completed the tabulation of the 2013 survey results in Tableau software. The committee discussed the results at its December and April meetings, and presented a summary at the department chairs’ retreat on 28 May 2014, highlighting ways that chairs may draw on data to assist in revision of departmental rhetoric programs.
   2. Overhaul of the RAC website: Kate van Liere requested and received $500 grant from CTLN to fund the redesign and expansion of the RAC website (www.calvin.edu/academic/rhetoric/). The redesigned site features an expanded overview of the Rhetoric Center and its personnel; teaching resources for faculty; writing and citation resources for students, and a section on “Writing with Integrity” designed to help prevent plagiarism.

B. Actions brought before Faculty Senate
   None

C. Other actions, not involving Faculty Senate, that the committee initiated or implemented
   1. Faculty development. Kate Van Liere and Karen Saupe oriented new faculty in the Kuiper Seminar to the aims of the RAC program, “writing to learn” strategies, and integrity in student writing. Kate Van Liere and Craig Hanson hosted a faculty workshop on May 27 on “nurturing integrity in student writing.” Plans are being made to offer rhetoric-related presentations at Fall Faculty Conference.
   2. Collaboration with Student Life on streamlining and clarifying the Academic Dishonesty Policy. Kate van Liere initiated a discussion with Jane Hendriksma about revising the language in both the Faculty and Student Handbooks to help faculty understand and comply with the policy. Kate will work with Jane on this over the summer, ensuring that revised language is prominently feature on the RAC website as well as the Student Life and Provost’s websites and is communicated to faculty.
   3. Communication with academic departments about review and revision of rhetoric programs.

D. Issues that will continue to be before the committee next year
   1. Work with departments to revise out-of-date rhetoric programs (priority departments: Economics & Business, Education, GEO, Math, German.)
   2. Continue expansion, revision, and promotion of new website, including adding graphics and editing departmental rhetoric programs to make them more pedagogically useful for faculty and students.
   3. Continue and expand new faculty enrichment opportunities in cooperation with CTLN, International Student Development (Linda Bosch and Leanne Nagel’s successor).
   4. Initiate a college-wide writing or rhetoric prize to enhance prestige of rhetoric among student body.
   5. Discuss whether non-departmental programs (CMS, IDS) should have rhetoric programs.