

General Education Committee

December 13, 2010 – Student Senate Room (HUB 119)

MINUTES

Present: Samuel D. Brickley II, Mary E. Campbell (consultant, non-voting), Peter G. Drexel, Wilson A. Garcia, Elliott G. Gruner (Chair), Jason A. Swift, David Zehr [six voting members]

Excused: Christopher C. Chabot, Jillian A. Spring (student, voting), Audra Wheeler (student, voting)

Absent: Jeremiah S. Duncan (new faculty, non-voting)

Vacant: Dean of the Academic Experience

Presenters of Proposals: Lourdes Aviles, Linda Levy, Barbara Lopez-Mayhew, Kurt Schroeder

Recorded in the order in which the agenda item was discussed. Elliott Gruner called the meeting to order at 2:30 pm.

- **Review of draft 11-22-2010 minutes.** The distributed copy included the Chair's edits and was *approved by general consent.*
- **Waiver of Scientific Inquiry for the BS Exercise and Sports Physiology.** *Approved 6-0-0-3.*
- **Course Approved under Early Review:** Proposals *preapproved* by electronic distribution [sunset date is 5/2015]:
 - ESDI 2610 Earth Systems Science: The Hazardous Earth as SIDI (sunset renewal)
 - MA 2300 Statistics I as QRCO (sunset renewal)
 - PSDI 1000 Who Am I? Establishing Personal Identity in the Social Environment as SSDI (sunset renewal)
 - PO 2020 Public Administration as DICO (sunset renewal)
 - PO 3120 Political Parties, Elections, and Interest Groups as TECO (sunset renewal)
 - PO 3680 Public Policy Analysis as WRCO (sunset renewal)
 - AN 4600 Seminar: Theory and Practice as WRCO (sunset renewal)
 - SO 4600 Seminar: Theory and Practice as WRCO (sunset renewal)
 - SO 2220 Foundations of Sociology as DICO (sunset renewal)
 - IS 4160 The Ice Age as INCO (sunset renewal)
 - SS 4994 Community Research Experience as INCO (initial approval) [new course number is SS 4950]
 - SW 3100 Child Welfare and Family Services as DICO (initial approval) [new course number is SW 3130]
- **Course to be considered under Standard Review**
 - AH 3160 Museum Studies I: *withdrawn* by the Department; not seeking renewal [new course number is AH 3150]
 - MTDI 1500 Severe and Hazardous Weather as SIDI (sunset renewal)
 - MT 4400 Numerical Weather Prediction as INCO and TECO (initial approval; approved 12/17/10 by the Curriculum Committee)
 - MT 4300 Synoptic Meteorology II as TECO (initial approval) [new course number is MT 4280]
 - MT 4110 Air Quality as INCO (initial approval) [new course number is MT 4150]
 - CH 4110 Air Quality as INCO (initial approval) [new course number is CH 4150]
 - MT 4430 Climate Change as INCO (initial approval) [new course number is MT 4440]

General Education Committee

- MT 4420 Tropical Weather and Climate as INCO (initial approval; approved 12/17/10 by the Curriculum Committee)
- CH 3420 Environmental Chemistry as INCO (initial approval) [new course number is CH 3600] *Approved 6-0-0-3. Sunset date is 5/2015*
- FR 1010 Fundamentals of French I as DICO and GACO (sunset renewal)
- FR 1020 Fundamentals of French II as DICO and GACO (sunset renewal)
- FR 3030 Advanced French as GACO and TECO (sunset renewal)
- SP 2010 Intermediate Spanish I as DICO and GACO (sunset renewal)
- SP 2020 Intermediate Spanish II as DICO and GACO (sunset renewal)
- SP 3190 Spanish for Business as DICO and GACO (sunset renewal)
- SP 3220 Advanced Spanish Composition as (WRCO) (sunset renewal) *Approved 6-0-0-3. Sunset date is 5/2015*
- GE 2090 Computer Mapping as TECO (sunset renewal). *Approved 6-0-0-3 pending departmental approval. Sunset date is 5/2015.*
- **Courses with a 5/2011 sunset date that did not submit a request for renewal nor had their sunset date extended:**
 - AHDI 1210 Exploring Art: Revelations and Revolutions (PPDI) [new course number is AH 1100]
 - CMDI 1010 Mass Media, Jim Morrison and The Doors (PPDI) [new course number is CM 1300]. Deleted 12/17/10 as a course by the Curriculum Committee.
 - GE 3630 Historical Geography of Europe (GACO) (WRCO) [new course number is GE 3480]
 - PO 3300 Latin American Politics (GACO) (WRCO) [new course number is PO 3550]
 - PO 3500 Politics and Conflict in the Middle East (GACO) (INCO) [new course number is PO 3570]
 - PO 3580 Politics of the Pacific Rim—ASEAN (WRCO) [new course number is PO 3560]
 - PODI 1040 Terrorism and Counter-Terrorism (PPDI) [new course number is PO 1200]
 - PODI 1050 Global Problems, Power and Politics (SSDI) [new course number is PO 1100]
 - PODI 1100 Citizen Politics (SSDI) [new course number is PO 1040]

Their General Education status ends May 2011.

- **Actions of the Curriculum Committee That Affect General Education Courses, April-November, 2010.** The General Education moved and seconded to continue the General Education status for the courses listed on the report. *Approved 6-0-0-3.*
- **Changes to prerequisites for Philosophy General Education courses.** Marcia Blaine provided the Chair with a copy of the Curriculum Change Proposal she plans to submit to the Curriculum Committee: to remove all prerequisite requirements from the following Philosophy courses: PY 2010, PY 2610, PY 2630, PY 3010, PY 3140, PY 3210, PY 3390, PY 3450, PY 3560, PY 4770, and PY 4910. The General Education Committee was not opposed to the proposal. The prerequisite of 'junior status' must remain on PY 3560 because it has INCO status.
- **General Education Committee retreat to discuss assessment, Thursday, January 27th, 9-11:30 am in Frost Commons (refreshments will be provided).** Sam thought that this topic was a votable matter. Sam moved, David seconded, to make the retreat a votable issue. Two voted in favor; two voted opposed; two abstained; three were absent. The motion was *defeated*.

General Education Committee

The Chair reported that the assessment subcommittee thought the retreat was a good idea. Elliot has attended a NEASC conference and has returned with information about assessing gen ed.

The Committee could come to consensus at a regular meeting on the topic of having a retreat. The subcommittee seemed to be formed without the full Committee. We have a lot of work to do on assessment. Would the retreat turn into a work session for the whole Committee or for the subcommittee?

The Chair wants the whole Committee to know what the subcommittee is doing. Much at the retreat will be informational for the whole Committee. The subcommittee wants the full Committee to discuss some of the issues. The Chair wants to do a program review of General Education. Some changes are needed for the heart of the program. The Chair will be bringing visitors to the retreat. How can we make the program better? It is important for everyone to know what we're assessing.

- **Report on Visit to Council of Chairs.** The Chair reported on his attendance at the Council of Chairs meeting. Two themes emerged: (a) workload involvement; new role of Deans in the process; (b) politics of Gen Ed; the Gen Ed Committee has changed; question of fairness; having to come to talk to the Committee depends on who is on the Committee. The comments of a "political agenda" did not represent a majority of the Chairs.

There are levels of scrutiny. Do we all know what we are supposed to be looking for when we review the proposals? It is stated on the proposal form. Current and previous members have discussed it. The goal of revising the form last year was to simplify, make it easier for the faculty to complete and submit. We also moved from only one member to requiring two members who have concerns during early review. If the student evaluation has scores of less than 3, we expect some comments on the form. If we don't make it explicit, it's unfair to our colleagues.

The 2005 Assessment plan is very helpful as a guideline and puts everyone on the same page. The guidelines give us consensus.

The Chair held a meeting of the new committee members at the beginning of the semester.

It is a struggle to get information because of the current Web site.

The General Education Committee meets on the second and fourth Mondays of the month from 2:30 to 3:30 pm in HUB 123. The next meeting of the Committee will be **February 14, 2011** in HUB 123.

The Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 3:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary E. Campbell, Scribe
Director of Curriculum Support

These minutes were approved February 14, 2011.

General Education Committee

Sunset date that has been extended by the Associate Vice President for Undergraduates Studies:

BI 4180 Biotechnology (TECO) and (WRCO) to 5/2012

ER 3800 Technology and Problem Solving Across the Primary Grade Curriculum (TECO) to 5/2012

FR 3080 French for Criminal Justice I (DICO) and (GACO) to 5/2013

FR 3090 French for Criminal Justice II (DICO) and (GACO) to 5/2013

FR 3130 Advanced French Composition (WRCO) to 5/2012

IS 3480 Perspective on Wilderness (DICO) and INCO) to 5/2012

SODI 2200 Exploring Social Life (SSDI) to 5/2012

SO 3380 Drugs and Society (INCO) to 5/2012

SO 3390 Environment and Society to 5/2012