

## MINUTES

General Education Council,  
3:30 March 1, 2012, Grove Hall 404

- I. Meeting was called to order by Dr. James Hamblin at 3:35 pm in GH 404. Attendance at the meeting included: M. Moilanen, C. Sipes, L. Cella, J. Edwards, D. Godshalk, W. Kingsley, A. Morana, P. Peet, B. Finucane, A. Feeney, C. Botteron, C. Bertram, D. Cornelius, E. Nollenberger, A. Predecki, D. Girard, J. Hamblin, W. Crawley, A. Cresswell, R. Setaputra, S. Morrisette, S. Paulson, J. Clements, K. Johnson, S. Harrow, J. Mike, J. Kooti, M. Schultz, and K. Moll.
- II. Dr. Paulson motioned, seconded by Dr. Nollenberger, to approve the February 2, 2011 minutes, all were in favor and it passed unanimously.
- III. Report from UCC-Dr. Botteron reported that the Political Science 141 course which we approved last month was also approved by UCC. UCC made recommendations to Forum to clarify procedures between GEC, UCC, and Forum. Currently the UCC manual specifies that proposals for “a new general education course” go to Forum. That clause was suggested to be deleted, so that they now come to GEC. There was some discussion to clarify whether the diversity requirement fell under GEC since there are some courses that do fit the diversity requirement without falling into a general education category. Dr. Edwards motioned, seconded by Dr. Moll that the GEC assert that the diversity requirement does fall under GEC's purview. The motion was approved unanimously.
- IV. Report from Standing Committees
  - a. Assessment-Dr. Girard reported that the committee met on February 22 to finalize the standardize testing proposal. The committee wants to test 700 freshman (minimum of 600) in fall 2012, and 250 seniors between fall 2012 and spring 2013. The larger freshman pool is in hopes of later obtaining a sample from the original set. A \$5 gift card will be the incentive for participating seniors using a computer, while freshman testing will be conducted in a classroom setting using paper and pencils. The ETS exam was selected for budget reasons and thus the committee motioned to ask the Provost for \$14325 to support testing. It was discussed that this was a long term assessment aimed to look at trends in reading, writing, and logic skills, not course content, and thus the Provost would need to make a yearly commitment to those funds. It was also discussed that the money is to improve the overall college education and not a request from GEC. Dean's Mike and Kooti expressed the administration's recognition of the importance of assessment to the institution and not a program and that GEC was the body in charge of selecting a beneficial test. The motion passed.
  - b. Budget-Dr. Clements reported that the three proposals mentioned at the previous meeting were funded by the Provost, along with another one from the math department. An additional proposal was received yesterday and will be sent out to committee members, and thus it seems like the rolling deadline is working well. Approximately \$9000 remains in this year's budget so encourage others to apply, and as previously voted on, valid projects can reapply. The committee is working on a reporting procedure and will start to work on next year's call for proposals.
  - c. Program-Dr. Predecki reported that the committee met on February 29 and reviewed two general education proposals. A few years ago GECC put forth to UCC a special topics

general education proposal of xx-190. Those proposals should submit syllabi to GEC to ensure those courses fit the goals of general education. Two were received.

- i. ENG 190 – Reading, Writing, and Performing Drama- the committee unanimously agrees that this course fit the GEC and made a motion for GEC’s approval. Dr. Peet reported that there is often overlap with theater in English and his department does not have a problem with any that. A vote was taken and the motion was approved.
- ii. SOC 190 – Intro to Disability Studies-this course proposal fits in category E and the diversity requirement. While there is also overlap the committee made a motion to approve it. The course will be team taught as a 1-credit overload by three faculty members. A vote was taken and the motion passed.
- iii. Dr. Predecki summarized two action items from the retreat. A motion was made to create an ad-hoc committee to look at the entry-year experience. Dr. Moll motioned to amend the motion by electing the Chair of UCC and Chair of Programs Committee to create the ad-hoc committee and include some people who are not members of GEC but have participated in similar discussions in the past. Both the amendment and the motion passed. A second theme from the retreat generated another motion from the program committee to create an ad-hoc committee examining capstone courses. Currently about 1/3 of major’s do not have a capstone course. The motion passed.

#### V. New Business

- a. Some departments need to elect representatives for the next 3-year term. Members of GEC serve for 3 year, but departments are staggered on a rolling basis. The following departments need to elect representatives before the April meeting for the April 2012-2015 term: Art and Design, Biology, Economics, History/Philosophy, Mathematics, Sociology/Anthropology, Accounting, MIS, and IT for Business Ed., and Criminal Justice.
- b. Elections for 2012-13 officers (faculty co-chair, secretary, and UCC rep) will take place next month.
- c. GEC needs to conduct a five year review. Over the summer, a few members are asked to volunteer to draft the document of the past five years, goals for the next five years, and what the general education reform will look like. The Provost is willing to compensate a few faculty with 2-3 weeks of summer salary. The draft will be brought to GEC in the fall for comments, feedback, and revisions. Dr. Moll, Dr. Crawley, Dr. Godshalk, and Dr.Predecki volunteered to assist Dr. Hamblin.

VI. Motion to adjourn was made by Dr. Clements, seconded by Dr. Cornelius, and passed with all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Alison E. Feeney