

MINUTES

General Education Council,
3:30 October 4, 2012, Grove Hall 201

- I. Meeting was called to order by Dr. James Hamblin at 3:33 pm in GH 201. Attendance at the meeting included: C. Sipes, L. Cella, D. Godshalk, M. Spicka, W. Kingsley, A. Morana, P. Peet B. Finucane, S. Drzyzga, A. Feeney, C. Botteron, C. Bertram, C. Kimmel, E. Nollenberger, A. Predecki, D. Girard, J. Hamblin, L. Bryant, A. Cresswell, J. Catanio, R. Setaputra, S. Morrisette, J. Clements, M. Paxton, K. Johnson, S. Stokely, K. Moll, and E. Cooper, E. Zink.
- II. Dr. Feeney reported on two changes (last name correction, and Dr. Stokely's official title) Dr. Nollenberger motioned, seconded by Dr. Peet, to approve the September 6, 2012 minutes, all were in favor and it passed unanimously.
- III. Update from Forum-Dr. Hamblin reported on the scheduling conflict with GEC and UCC, some months we meet 2 days after, and some months 5 days before. In upcoming years GEC will meet on the last Thursday of the month to correct the conflict. He also clarified that any Gen Ed program revision will be submitted through UCC just like any other program revision. Dr. Hamblin offered to attend their meetings, and that was given a "maybe" so in the future Dr. Hamblin may be representing GEC at Forum meetings.
- IV. Report from UCC-Dr. Moll reported that the Entrepreneurship moved from a concentration to a major and two new undergraduate courses were approved as part of that major: project design and computer engineering. Small modifications were made to a psychology course in the graduate program and to a special education course to match Pennsylvania qualifications. These changes were not related to General Education.
- V. Report from Standing Committees-
 - a. Budget-Dr. Bertram reported that one proposal was sent to the Dean and they were expecting to send forth another for approval. They will look at possibly revising the form.
 - b. Program-Dr. Drzyzga was elected chair after the first meeting of this committee. Their primary charge will be to move forward with gen-ed program revision based on survey results, and hope to have proposal by end of semester. In the meantime, you can let departments know there is a draft being proposed to get discussions started but emphasizing this as an ongoing process.
 - c. Assessment-Dr. Girard was elected chair at their meetings and they discussed the status of the VSA testing with which they want to move forward. The biggest issue is the formality in setting up the tests and proctors. They have several volunteers and thus have the required student population. Ideally there will be coordination with AAAT who also need information and all the material can be combined into one assessment instrument. The second issue deals with final payment from the Provost. Dr. Stokely offered assistance with her office in proctoring.
 - d. Ad-Hoc Capstone-Dr. Bryant was elected as chair at their first meeting. They are currently in an information gathering stage, looking at different universities, models, and third-party research to see what others consider a "capstone experience" and what may work at Shippensburg University.

e. Ad-Hoc Entry-Year Experience-Dr. Moll was elected chair and reported they had their first meeting where they discussed the history of the program and feedback from the retreat. Key issues will be to resolve the fundamental model of the course, its intended nature and the balance between skills and concepts. The committee will look at recommended models and practices as other PASSHE schools and develop a pilot for fall 2013. Dr. Hamblin stressed the importance of getting the ball rolling. It has been a point of frustration for so many years, so at least let us try some model and have some real outcomes to revise. Fall 2013 should be a real solid target date. Dr. Stokely sits on many campus committees that have a vested interest in a First Year experience and hopefully she can assist in facilitating expertise across campus. Dr. Cella described her participation at UConn where faculty used their expertise with students to gain skills but participate in the community.

VI. Update on Five-Year Review-Dr. Hamblin reported that he will be emailing out the finalized draft in the next week and he would like feedback by October 25. The feedback will be shared with the 5 members writing the review, they will fix issues and make changes, and get send the final proposal back to GEC by the November meeting and final approval by the December meeting to send onto Provost by December deadline.

VII. Timing of committee organization-All members serve a three year rotation, which is staggered between departments so there is a sense of continuity. It was motioned in the September meeting to have on the agenda a discussion about organization of committees. Previously committees have been formed in the fall, however some of the sub-committees need to meet in the summer, and thus a discussion arose to possibly forming sub-committees in the spring when the rotation of out-going members shift to in-coming members. Dr. Nollenberger motioned, seconded by Dr. Kingsley that sub-committees form in April. Student representative Ed Zink said that may give the students a bit more heads up too. A vote was taken, and all were in favor. Dr. Hamblin will revise by-laws to reflect the change.

VIII. PHL 190 Proposal- In 2007 UCC passed a proposal to have a selected topics general education course. It is open to all departments, who can offer a given 190 course up to three times before being converted to a full time course. It is already approved by UCC and thus only GEC must approve if it falls into the appropriate categories. A discussion arose as the appropriate name of the course should reflect the nature of category A. It was suggested that the name of the course should be changed to something reflecting the concepts and approaches to world religions rather than a history or practices of religions. A discussion arose as to the nature of scheduling and to ensure the name could be changed in Banner. Dr. Godshalk motioned, seconded by Dr. Kingsley, to approve the course with the stipulation that the course name be changed to "Concepts in World Religions." Dr. Cella motioned, seconded by Dr. Moll, to make an amendment to the motion that the course name change be made in Banner. Both the amendment and the motion passed unanimously. Dr. Godshalk asked a question on 190 proposals and if they have to go through dept. It was suggested that we may possibly need to adopt a policy to get Department Chair approval to ensure endorsement.

IX. Periodic Review Report (Middle States)-Dr. Hamblin is working with Dr. Sax on the PRR report which is due June 2014, and they may come to people for some information.

X. Motion to adjourn was made by Dr. Kingsley, seconded by Ed Zink, and passed with all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 4:29 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Alison E. Feeney