

MINUTES

General Education Council,
3:30 December 6, 2012, Grove Hall 202

- I. Meeting was called to order by Dr. James Hamblin at 3:34 pm in GH 202. Attendance at the meeting included: C. Sipes, L. Cella, D. Godshalk, W. Kingsley, A. Morana, M. Lucia, B. Finucane, S. Drzyzga, A. Feeney, C. Bertram, C. Kimmel, E. Nollenberger, A. Predecki, D. Girard, J. Hamblin, Alan Cresswell, J. Catanio, R. Setaputra, S. Morrisette, M. Paxton, J. Mike, K. Moll, A. Dobbs, and E. Zink.
- II. Dr. Godshalk motioned, seconded by Dr. Nollenberger, to approve the November 1, 2012 minutes. All were in favor and it passed unanimously.
- III. Dr. Allison Carey presented the UCC 12-45 proposal stating it is one part of the disabilities studies minor that is currently being structured. This course targets disabilities in a historical and cultural context and describes variations across time and place along with social movements and change. The course is currently running as a pilot and if the minor is passed it will be offered regularly. It comes before GEC to be approved as a category E course and fulfilling the disabilities requirement as it is aligned with those goals and objectives. A few questions arose as to the manner in which students can register for the course, and if this would create competition amongst other category E courses. Dr. Godshalk motioned, seconded by Dr. Mike to approve it as category E, and Dr. Moll amended the motion to include the diversity requirement. All were in favor. GEC will pass along its recommendation to UCC for the February meeting.
- IV. UCC-Dr. Moll reported that modern languages discussed a pilot program that will be introduced next fall to teach Chinese. They are uncertain as to demand and have some concerns as to the effectiveness of students progressing through steps and thus at this point they are not asking for it to fulfill general education requirements. They wanted to pilot it and be cautious of this new venture.
- V. Reports from Standing Committees-
 - a. Budget-Dr. Bertram reported that last Friday was the deadline and they got two proposals which they are currently reviewing. The committee also discussed assessment for people who received funds and approaching the provost for continued funding.
 - b. Program-Dr. Drzyzga reported that the committee met on Nov 19th and spent time discussing two documents that are directed toward, and may impact general education. In particular are courses that currently double count as part of the general education curriculum and as part of major courses. Areas where this may be particularly problematic are writing courses and possibly the development of capstone courses. The committee is trying to determine which departments will be the most impacted.
 - c. Assessment-Dr. Girard reported that they will be meeting in two weeks. The standardized testing began this week so they will review that along with other software and other assessment tools. In the spring they will review lesson learned from the standardized assessment and will begin to assess seniors.

- d. Ad-Hoc Capstone- Dr. Bryant reported that this past semester was mostly gathering information and found that departments have a range of experiences. The goal is to figure out what falls into a capstone experience, such as presentations, internships, courses, papers etc. While mostly these experiences are housed in departments, we must consider interdisciplinary options too. In the spring, the committee will try to develop guidelines that would work at Shippensburg University and incorporate the spirit of a capstone experience. It was suggested that Dr. Bryant meet with Dr. Drzyzga.
 - e. Ad hoc entry year experience-Dr. Moll reported that the committee met twice and they are trying to put a model together to be piloted next fall. They are reviewing three fundamental models that are widely used and want to determine what fits within the culture of Shippensburg University and our collective bargaining agreement. At the retreat, the first year experience was one of the most discussed and controversial issues and thus they really want to review models and incorporate ideas. Discussions and visits with other schools in PASSHE seem to be very open and the schools seem to be willing to share assessments and ideas, particularly Millersville and Kutztown were mentioned as possible models. It was suggested that the committees do not duplicate efforts and Dr. Moll meet with Dr. Drzyzga.
 - f. Dr. Hamblin asked committees to meet before the next meeting in February, thus if you are not meeting in December please do so in January.
- VI. Approval of Five-Year Review-Dr. Hamblin reported that comments and suggestions had been incorporated into the document and they made a motion to approve the document and send it to the Provost. No discussion occurred and the motion passed unanimously. Dr. Hamblin wanted to extend his thanks to those who worked on it.
- VII. Eng 243 Proposal-course description revision to fall under category B, general education. The current course description is 30 years old and the department would like to reflect current topics and teaching methods. The main change is not to focus on specific films and directors, but rather to read films as narratives similar to literature. Dr. Hamblin reported on updates on the GEC website and demonstrated where one can find the goals and objectives of each category. Dr. Bertram motioned, seconded by Dr. Predecki, to pass the course revisions and have it count for category B. All were in favor and it passed unanimously.
- VIII. Ethnic studies courses-Dr. Morana reported on changes to ETH 100, ETH 101, and ETH 102 and the request to make them part of category E. At this time they are not asking to fulfill a diversity requirement but it was suggested that in the future the department may consider that. Dr. Nollenberger, seconded by Dr. Kingsley, moved to approve the courses to fill category D. Again a discussion arose as to minors signing up for courses before all students, and to the possibility of these courses taking away from other courses in the same category. All were in favor and the motion passed.
- IX. Academic Master Plan-GEC was asked to review and approve it. Dr. Hamblin highlighted areas where GEC was mentioned. Dr. Bryant motioned, seconded by Dr. Kimmel to approve the plan. A discussion arose on many subjects, and Dr. Dobbs reported that this document has been in the works for many years, and ideally they want support of it and thus the February 1st deadline was a target

date. Dr. Kingsley motioned, seconded by Dr. Lucia to postpone the discussion until the February meeting to give people more time to digest it. All were in favor to add it to the February agenda.

X. An issue arose with an Art 190 course. The course was placed on Banner, students have registered for it, expecting it to count for category B, yet it was never approved by GEC. The art department and the registrar's office have been communicated with as to the error of the problem. Dr. Cresswell motioned, seconded by Dr. Predecki, to approve the course as fulfilling category B. All were in favor and it passed.

XI. Dr. Hamblin adjourned the meeting at 4:49 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Alison E. Feeney