

MINUTES

General Education Council,
3:30 March 7, 2013, 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, W. Kingsley, A. Morana, P. Peet, S. Drzyzga, A. Feeney, C. Bertram, C. Kimmel, E. Nollenberger, C. Zaleski, D. Girard, J. Hamblin, L. Bryant, A. Cresswell, J. Catanio, S. Morrisette, L. Patterson, J. Clements, S. Benbow, M. Paxton, J. Mike, S. Stokely, and K. Moll.
- II. Dr. Godshalk motioned, seconded by Dr. Nollenberger, to approve the February 7, 2013 minutes. All were in favor and it passed unanimously.
- III. Report from UCC-Dr. Paulson had attending the UCC meeting but deferred the conversation to Dr. Hamblin who had also attended the meeting and reported that #12-77, #12-78, #12-79, #12-80 passed, supporting the ethnic studies minor. A few questions arose at UCC as to category changes and if those changes could be applied retro-actively. The discussion will be continued in April.
- IV. Reports from Standing Committees-
 - a. Budget-Dr. Bertram reported that they did not meet, but received three proposals this past month. Two were approved and the third would be decided upon by the end of today. The committee was drafting a proposal to the Provost for the upcoming year's funding which they will bring to April's meeting for approval. Dr. Cella asked if any program-wide proposals were ever submitted, possibly to build a freshman writing course. Many proposals suggest campus-wide interest but have not directly addressed entire programs.
 - b. Program-Dr. Drzyzga reported that they met twice in the past month. They discussed two 190 proposals. The first submitted by Dr. Jantz who has used the same format as previous 190 courses. She clearly lists the course objectives and goals, and included a syllabus and the committee recommends it to fall under category C. The course is taught locally and focusing on the Chesapeake Bay and field work is conducted at Antietam Creek. All were in favor and the course was unanimous approved. The second 190 course was submitted by Dr. Girard and would focus on Python and fall under category A. Similarly the goals and learning objectives were clearly stated and the committee motioned that it be counted as a category A. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously. As the number of 190 courses has increased more people on campus are aware of their existence and are unsure of the process. Dr. Drzyzga drafted a memo to make the course structure, expectation, and proposal guidelines as clear as possible. The committee motioned to approve this memo and an internal policy. Dr. Girard motioned, seconded by Dr. Moll, to vote on this at the April meeting, allowing people time to read it and make minor corrections. Finally, the person at Bloomsburg University who had an integral part of their general education revision is willing to come to Shippensburg during spring break and when that meeting is scheduled the entire GEC will be notified and all are welcome to attend.
 - c. Assessment-Dr. Girard reported that they met once and had several email discussions over the past month. They are getting close to presenting a plan and are targeting a few

objectives to assess. They need to consider how to plan for change as objectives and future revisions change. The committee plans to have a proposal for the April meeting.

- d. Ad-Hoc Capstone- Dr. Bryant reported that they met last week and their discussions expanded from purely capstone experiences to a range of other high impact practices such as internships and field experience. They feel this should extend outside of GEC and have reached out to UCC. UCC felt this should also be more campus-wide, and thus both Dr. Hamblin and Dr. Dobbs will craft a similar letter to the Provost asking for representatives across campus. Dr. Godshalk motioned, seconded by Dr. Moll, for GEC to support a more all-inclusive assistive body to examine high impact practices and to get students involved in practices already occurring on the campus. All were in favor of the motion. It was also noted that institutions that have tried implementing a general education capstone have not been very successful and rather it has come down to individual departments. It is a difficult concept and many other institutions are dealing with this as well, and their experiences should not be ignored.
- e. Ad hoc entry year experience-Dr. Moll reported that they had a productive meeting where they met with Dr. Drzyzga in attempts to not duplicate efforts. Taking suggestions from Millersville, the committee is leaning toward a small pilot program with a target group of undeclared students in fall 2014 and expanding it by fall 2015. The justification for undeclared students is that they tend to be at higher risk. The pilot may include a freshman seminar course of around 20 students, and the committee will continue to evaluate the pilot as the entire general education is revised. Many unresolved issues need to be examined, such as number of credits, how it fits into the essential Shippensburg University experience, the current teaching contract, and other constraints. The business school currently has a program for freshman and the faculty is expected to participate by delivering lectures and informing students of opportunities. The Honor's program and the Chemistry department are two other success programs that the committee wants to work with to determine successful practices.

V. UCC#12-94 and 12-95-History 201and 202 Diversity Proposal-Dr. Godshalk reported that the department was withdrawing the 12-94 proposal. The Program committee reviewed 12-95 and the current description meets the objectives and made a motion to approve the course. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

VI. Additional announcements-Dr. Hamblin reminded that some departments had terms expiring. Chemistry, computer science, geography-earth science, human communications, psychology, finance and supply chain management, and teacher education needed to elect members and alternates during this month's faculty meetings. The April meeting will be the last of the year and both old and new members are expected to attend. Election of officers and a sign-up sheet for subcommittees will be on the April's agenda. Subcommittees are expected to meet between April and the first fall meeting

VII. Dr. Hamblin adjourned the meeting at 4:30 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Alison E. Feeney