

GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

November 20, 2013

Evald 305

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 PM.

Members Present: Carolyn Hough, Nathan Frank, John Pfautz, Rowen Schussheim-Anderson, Stefanie Bluemle, Janene Finley, Meg Gillette, Mike Egan, Jeff Ratliff-Crain, , Brian Katz, Rick Jaeschke

Absent: Jacob McManus (SGA), Lendol Calder, Katie Hanson, Eric Pitts (SGA), Danica Gray (SGA)

Guests Present: Christina Myatt

I. Approval of Minutes

Motion- Brian Katz moved **“to approve the minutes of the October 30th meeting as submitted.”**

Nathan Frank seconded.

Discussion was opened. There were a couple of typos which were noted. With no other corrections/additions, a vote was taken.

MOTION PASSED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 30TH MEETING WITH THE CORRECTIONS NOTED.

Christina Myatt will correct and file the approved minutes with Mary Koski in Academic Affairs.

II. NEW BUSINESS

A. Approval of Consent Agenda

The consent agenda consisted of the approval of six learning prospective proposals, two learning community proposals, and two LSFY 103 courses.

A consent vote was taken.

CONSENT AGENDA PASSED.

B. Approval of LSFY 103: A conversation on Race... (Chambers-Samandi)

Brian Katz moved “ **to approve the course LSFY 103: A Conversation on Race...**”

Rick Jaeschke seconded.

The floor was opened up to discussion.

Concerns included the lack of library visits, research visits, and that chapters required needed to be for LSFY 103 not 102.

There were some concerns about the need to readjust the course description to better address the audience we are trying to reach.

The committee as a whole was very positive about the concept behind this course.

The committee believed it was ok to approve the course and give feedback.

AMENDED MOTION FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF LSFY 103: A CONVERSATION ON RACE... WITH FEEDBACK PASSED.

C. Approval of Features of “AGES 2.0”

1. Student LP Requirement: 6 LP courses rather than 9 LP courses to graduate

The charge given to the committee is to reduce the Gen Ed footprint. We have 6 LPs, 9 is just an arbitrary number.

It was thought that the current system does not give room for synthesis. People would like to see a transformation rather than “cutting”. We need to allow some space for bringing the perspectives together.

It was mentioned that many faculty believe that if the LP number is reduced, it will result in

people losing jobs.

With the expansion of LPs within a major, do we limit how many LPs can come from your major? If ICC cannot overlap with LPs, that may help. The changes we make may not reduce the footprint but will provide a “simpler story”.

Can we expect some of the LPs to be upper level courses which would make students spread them out?

The question was raised how our Gen Ed requirements compare with other institutions. It was reported that we are on the high end but that we are a liberal arts institution.

A push for integrative experience might be coming and we know that eportfolios are already in the strategic plan- do we keep this in our back pocket for now?

As it appeared that the committee was not as close on this matter as was originally thought, the continued discussion and proposal was sent to the LP subcommittee.

The strategic plan seems to say that even if we don't do this now, we will need to address it. We are bringing in ICC as well. If we say you can't double dip with ICC, we don't reduce the footprint. We need to reduce something. It was thought that maybe the ICCX class could not be a double dip but an ICCA could. Some questioned if “double dipping” was integrative learning.

Many hoped that faculty development will be part of this AGES 2.0 plan.

If we move to 6 LPs, 2 ICC, a Q, and an LC (which could double dip), we would be moving from 10 to 9.

The LP Subcommittee will meet and further discuss and bring their proposals back to the committee as a whole.

2. Incorporation of the I suffix into Perspective on the Natural World (PN) courses

Jeff reported that the gen Ed committee actually approved this back in 2011 but nothing changed. The issue got put to the side because of the semester discussion.

The committee agreed that it should be part of the AGES 2.0 update.

It was believed that this should not be an issue with faculty. It was noted that the courses do not necessarily have to include a lab but must include data.

The committee felt it would need to talk with those who have a PN without an I currently to assist them in incorporating the new requirements.

D. Update from Academic Affairs

A discussion of LCs is set for next week. We are currently set with the bare minimum of spaces to allow all students to complete the LC needed for their graduation requirements.

It is hoped that people will continue to think about and consider LCs as they are not going away.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENT

Our next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, November 27 at 4:00 PM in Evald 305. As this was the beginning of Thanksgiving break, it was decided that members of the committee would look at the items on the consent agenda and if there was no discussion, we would go ahead and approve the consent agenda without a formal meeting. Materials for the consent agenda are already on the Google Drive for people to look over.

V. ADJOURNMENT

There being no additional business the meeting was adjourned at 4:57 PM.

VI. ADDENDUM

After the meeting, we received word that Danica gray would no longer be serving on the Gen Ed Committee as she has accepted an internship at the QC Botanical Center that conflicts with meeting times. The SGA is working on a replacement for Danica.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christina Myatt