

GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

AMENDED MEETING MINUTES

March 23, 2011

Olin 304

The meeting was called to order at 4:02 PM.

Members Present: Stefanie Bluemle, Meg Gillette, Randall Hall, Alli Haskill, Carrie Hough, Virginia Johnson, Brian Katz, Jason Koontz, Joe McDowell

Guests Present: Mary Koski

AGENDA ITEM I: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion-McDowell, Second-Schroeder

“To approve the General Education Committee meeting minutes of March 16, 2011.”

MOTION CARRIED TO APPROVE MINUTES OF 3-16-11.

AGENDA ITEM II: NEW BUSINESS

A. Learning Perspectives Approval

Motion-McDowell, Second-Koontz

“To approve a PS learning perspective for PHIL 324: Philosophy of Law.”

Discussion: Concern about lack of discussion of assignments in the syllabus was expressed; however, there was some explanation of that in the answers on the proposal form. Alli added that there is a disclaimer that the instructors will flesh this out. Answer 5 on the PS form said that “This course is not primarily a quantitative course...we will not be dealing with that sort of data...”. The committee wondered if that implied that Gen Ed should assume it will be fleshed out. Alli commented that Gen Ed does not have a requirement to collect final proposals. It was commented that there is nothing about assessment on the proposal, as well as no assignments, aside from reading. Alli indicated the Educational Policies Committee will review assignment details. Evidence seemed to be lacking in answer 3, and it was also commented that the the proposal sounds more like a PH.

Motion-McDowell, Second-Katz

“To TABLE PHIL 324: Philosophy of Law for a PS learning perspective.”

MOTION CARRIED TO TABLE.

B. Update from Academic Affairs

No representative from Academic Affairs was present.

AGENDA ITEM III: NEW BUSINESS

A. Gen Ed Reduction/Revision Discussion

Alli recapped EPC's 3-22-11 meeting which was primarily a discussion about a letter written by Cabinet that expressed their opinion that the semester calendar discussion continue. Alli thanked Joe McDowell for taking Gen Ed's concerns to the 6/35 committee meeting. Joe reported that the 6/35 committee did not want to open the door on the semester issue. Alli wishes that 6/35 would make clear their intention, whether it is to shut the door forever, or that they shut it for now, but review it later. Joe reported that 6/35 decided to put forward the 4-credit option for all classes.

The LSFY subcommittee group was thanked for providing their LSFY report. Carrie Hough asked that clarification be included in the statistical data to reflect that it comes from NSSE.

In previous discussions Gen Ed felt some reasons not to offer the option of LSFY 103 as gateway to major/discipline option were that it destroys a year-long sequence, creates difficulty in having disciplinary course meet LSFY objectives, staffing concerns, departments would suddenly have to participate, which would be difficult, and it moves away from the original intent of LSFY. It was asked if these concerns should be included in the document.

Gen Ed previously discussed focusing LSFY on content or themes--could that fit into one of the options; topics such as love, money, etc.? The committee recalled that master narrative ideas were put aside, that we desire a skills story and not a content story. It would also be difficult staffing the courses.

Alli wondered if option 4 should be removed if 6/35 is not entertaining a semester model. Joe McDowell indicated that 6/35 doesn't seem to be concerned about the models Gen Ed is proposing, as long as Gen Ed's proposal models 12 classes.

Another suggestion for the document would be to mention the impending E-portfolio, how students perceive 103, and adding a suffix or LP to LSFY. Alli said that if Gen Ed is streamlined and the current 102 and 103 is LP'd in order to make room, serious thought needs to be given to reducing the matrix requirements.

Next week Gen Ed will review the LC, suffix, macro issues and LP subcommittee reports.

IV ANNOUNCEMENT

Gen Ed's next meeting will be March 30, 2011.

V ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:44 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Koski