

**GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
January 11, 2012
Evald 305**

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM.

Members Present: Tom Bengtson, Lendol Calder, Mike Egan, Margaret Farrar, Alli Haskill, Carrie Hough, Rick Jaeschke, Virginia Johnson, Brian Katz, Emil Kramer

Guests Present: Mary Koski

Mary Koski was welcomed back to the committee after her absence.

AGENDA ITEM I: Approval of Minutes

Motion-Egan, Second-Kramer

“To approve the minutes of the December 14, 2011 General Education Committee meeting.”

Discussion:

Mike Egan asked that Mary Koski’s name be removed from the list of guests present.

MOTION CARRIED TO APPROVE MINUTES FOR 12-14-11 GEN ED MEETING AS REVISED.

AGENDA ITEM II: NEW BUSINESS

Learning Perspectives Approvals

- 1) **Motion-Katz, Second-Johnson**
“To approve a “PH” learning perspective for COMM 420: Organizational Communication [Hay].”

MOTION CARRIED

- 2) **Motion-Kramer, Second-Calder**
“To approve a “PP” learning perspective for HIST 142: History of Sports in Africa [Cleveland].”

MOTION CARRIED

- 3) **Motion-Katz, Second-Hough**
“To approve a “PL” learning perspective for ARBC 100: Classic and Qur’anic Arabic [Zargar].”

Discussion: The committee expressed concern that the catalog copy and the course title do not match up, and the catalog copy doesn’t lend itself well to a “PL”. It was also noted that first-year foreign language courses do not carry LPs. Emil Kramer added that from his conversations with Cyrus Zargar, this course fits the PL criteria. The course will focus on Arabic literature and not on Arabic language. It was suggested that Alli Haskill contact the faculty member to recommend he change the catalog copy language or propose a new course.

Motion-Hough, Second-Jaeschke
"To TABLE ARBC 100: Classic and Qur'anic Arabic for a "PL".

MOTION TO TABLE CARRIED.

Learning Community Proposals

- 1) **Motion-Katz, Second-Johnson**
"To approve for a Learning Community:
Uncovering the Australian Organization [Peterson/Hay]
COMM 420: Organizational Communication
BUSN-INTR-AKP: Australian Internship"

MOTION CARRIED.

- 2) **Motion-Bengtson, Second-Katz**
"To approve for a Learning Community RELG 335 & MUSC 405: Voices in Faith [Pfautz/Mahn]."

Discussion: It was requested to pass along as a recommendation to the instructors to include an introductory statement of integration for each syllabus, not just about what they'll do, but why these things go together.

MOTION CARRIED.

- 1) **Suffix Approval**

Motion-Kramer, Second-Calder
"To approve a "G" Suffix for HIST 142: History of Sports in Africa [Cleveland]."

MOTION CARRIED

- 2) Discussion to approve ARBC 100 for a "G" will be postponed until the faculty clarifies action on the learning perspectives approval form.

Augie Reads 2012-2013

The Augie Reads committee selected Machiavelli's *The Prince* and asked for the General Education Committee to endorse this selection, which it did. Margaret Farrar announced that Augustana will not purchase the book for students this year. Katie Hanson researched several other colleges and found Augustana was the only school that purchased the book for their students. It is hoped that by students purchasing their own, they will take more ownership of the book. Faculty and staff will continue to receive a complimentary copy of the book by request only. Students will purchase their book when they get to campus in August.

AGENDA ITEM III AND IV: OLD BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

A Faculty Forum on Ged Ed's proposal to reduce AGES is planned for Monday, January 23, 2012 at 4:00 PM in Olin Auditorium and a Friday Conversation on the same topic is scheduled for Friday, January 27, 2012. All Gen Ed members are asked to participate in these events. The desired outcome of these

events is to gather faculty feedback on the proposed changes in order to prepare a final draft of the proposal for the faculty in April. Margaret Farrar anticipates questions/discussion from the faculty such as:

- What is LSFY going to look like?
- If curriculum reform does not pass, what does Gen Ed still propose to change?
- “G”, Christian Traditions, Learning Communities

Gen Ed’s answer to those questions for now is “we don’t know, but likely something will be considered for next year.”

Mike Egan asked if “think forces” will be implemented in this process as Gen Ed has done in the past. Margaret Farrar said no. The committee’s task would be to figure out, for example, what a new classification of LSFY would look like, given we want to keep some version of skills matrix (oral communication skills are under-emphasized). How do we want the boxes to look? A plan will then be created to present to the faculty, and ideas they present will be openly received.

Alli Haskill volunteered to co-lead the Monday Faculty Forum with Margaret Farrar; Mike Egan and Brian Katz confirmed they will be in attendance at the Friday Conversation. At Brian Katz’s suggested, it was decided that the Friday Conversation be workshop-style, where two or more Gen Ed members lead “stations”, each prepared to talk about proposed changes in the AGES program. There will be no votes taken at either event.

Alli Haskill announced that Mark Salisbury will be joining the committee to speak about how student learning outcomes can be improved and how Gen Ed might prepare for that discussion.

Margaret Farrar reminded the members that all faculty are invited on a field trip to Cornell College and/or Luther College to seek some inspiration for revising courses and/or curricula under a 4-1-4. Both trips would take place during finals week, February 16 or 17. Please RSVP to Margaret.

Margaret Farrar announced that the Hasselmo Prize is seeking nominations for a graduate school-bound student to help him or her conduct research, travel to a conference, and/or participate in other kinds of academic enrichment opportunities over the 2012-13 academic year. The selected student will receive up to a \$5,000 gift. Please send nominations to Margaret by January 18, 2012.

AGENDA ITEM V: ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:38 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Koski
Academic Affairs