

**GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
November 16, 2011
Evald 305**

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

Members Present: John Bagnuolo, Tom Bengtson, Anne Earel, Mike Egan, Margaret Farrar, Carrie Hough, Patrick Howell, Rick Jaeschke, Virginia Johnson, Brian Katz, Jason Koontz, Rowen Schussheim-Anderson

Guests Present: Mary Koski

Mike Egan and Tom Bengtson were welcomed back to the Gen Ed Committee.

The Gen Ed committee meeting times for winter term will be at 3:45 PM. The committee will not meet on November 23, 2011.

Suffix-ing LSFY

The committee discussed whether or not to add suffixes to LSFY 103 in light of the recent faculty vote to move to either a semester system or to keep our current academic calendar. In discussions over the past few months, the committee had agreed to suffix LSFY 103. It was felt that LSFY faculty are already being asked to do a great deal, and adding to that would be a lot to ask, therefore, the committee came to consensus that LSFY 103 will not have suffixes added to it.

Approval of Minutes

Motion-Katz, Second-Johnson

“To approve the minutes of the October 2, 2011, October 19, 2011 and October 26, 2011 General Education Committee meetings.”

Discussion:

Brian Katz asked that the minutes of the October 19, 2011 be revised to reflect that his name should not be included in the group of people he asked to draft a definition for D.

MOTION CARRIED TO APPROVE MINUTES FOR 10-2-11 AND 10-26-11 AND TO APPROVE MINUTES AS REVISED FOR 10-19-11.

Gen Ed Assignments

A list of Gen Ed Responsibilities/Assignments was passed out and the members volunteered to record minutes in Mary Koski’s absence for winter term, and also to write rationale for changes made in the general education requirements. Much of the rationale for recent Gen Ed curriculum decisions can be found in minutes or in Gen Ed archives. Margaret Farrar suggested that people draw on the recent Gen Ed survey when writing up their assignments. Anyone needing another copy of the survey should contact Margaret. Written assignments should be concise, but do not need to be lengthy; a paragraph summary with references to an appendix or other document would be sufficient. These paragraphs are being written for when Gen Ed presents its curriculum reduction proposal to the faculty. In the past these types of things have been emailed to the faculty prior to some sort of public meeting (forum,

Friday Conversation). Eventually it will go to full faculty. At some point RISE will need to decide if the Gen Ed will be voted on and/or if it will be part of the April 2012 vote. Rowen will try to get a sense from RISE what they are thinking. Drafts are due at the December 7, 2011 Gen Ed meeting.

“G” Suffix Proposal

Motion-Katz, Second-Egan

“To approve a “G” suffix for ENCW 303: Topics in Creative Nonfiction: Healthcare and Education in a Welfare State.”

MOTION CARRIED

LSFY 103: Food, Glorious Food?!? [Trotter]

Motion-Koontz, Second-Earel

“To approve new course LSFY 103: Food, Glorious Food?!? [Trotter].”

Concern was expressed that the proposal does not contain very much detail about writing assignments other than homework. Site visits were mentioned but it did not indicate whether they were part of the writing assignments or something different. Jason Koontz said it was very much like the Nutrition class Biology offers and there is some overlap as the Biology class tries to embrace the liberal arts, thinking about nutrition in a global perspective, and the same textbooks are being used. He added that Dr. Trotter would do a very good job with this course. Mike Egan asked about the possibility of adding a disclaimer that if this LSFY course was taken, then students could not enroll in BIO 263, but the committee did not come to consensus about this.

MOTION CARRIED (1-abstain)

LSFY 103: Reflections of Society in Theatre [Hare]

Motion-Egan, Second-Jaeschke

“To approve new course LSFY 103: Reflections of Society in Theatre [Hare]

The committee felt the proposal lacked significant details and recommends:

- Remove the academic policy filler in the proposal and replace with more content.
- Add more details about the final paper
- Request weekly schedule
- Fewer plays
- Include practice doing secondary reading and writing about the secondary nature in the context of the class

Motion-Katz, Second-Hough

“To table LSFY 103: Reflections of Society in Theatre [Hare].”

MOTION CARRIED

Rowen Schussheim-Anderson will relay the committee’s concerns to Donna Hare and ask her to review her course proposal.

Discussion: Request for Service Learning Designation for an LSFY 103 Course

Mike Egan requested Gen Ed's approval of giving a service-learning designation to an LSFY 103 course. Mike has been developing an LSFY 103 course for spring term that will focus on issues surrounding urban education. The course meets Augustana's service learning parameters (a commitment of at least 20 hours of service during the term; the service connects directly to the academic content; students will be required to write, reflect, and integrate their experiences into academic requirements, etc.) The committee unanimously supports granting a service-learning designation to LSFY courses if they meet the criteria. Margaret Farrar suggested to Mike that it might be helpful to have a statement from the General Education Committee indicating that the committee endorses the service-learning designation to support the application to EPC.

AGENDA ITEM I: ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Koski
Academic Affairs