

General Education Committee

Wednesday, February 11, 2009

Minutes

The meeting began at 4:30. Present: McDowell, Schussheim-Anderson, Johnson, Bertsche, Michael Nolan, Warren, Douglas, Kramer, Earel (nee Madura), Whiteside

- I. Approval of Feb 4 minutes.
Fred Whiteside noted that his name had been misspelled; so did Bertsche. However, after Allen failed to spell his own name correctly several times, the latter objection was dropped. It was also noted that the minutes failed to mention the election of Kristin Douglas as the new faculty chair. These changes noted, McDowell moved approval, Bertsche seconded, and the motion passed.
- II.
 - A. New Course Approvals
 1. LSFY 103: (Erickson). Moved for approval by Kramer; seconded by Earel. There was some discussion about interdisciplinarity. Warren noted that there wasn't much in this proposal, while others suggested that interdisciplinarity is not a requirement of LS courses. Warren again noted that he was instructed specifically that it was such i.d. (don't make me type it again) that was essential to make a course LS. This discussion died a natural death but it seems that it is an issue that should be taken up, resolved, and re-communicated to LS faculty in future. The lack of a syllabus was a concern but Don's devotion well-known devotion to the common elements of the LS program and the special circumstances under which he was asked to create this new course at the last minute were enough to calm such concerns. Motion passed.
 2. LSFY 103: Found in Translation (Rosenberg). McDowell moved approval; Earel seconded. Earel spoke to how quickly Dan worked to get up to speed on 103 principles. Kramer wondered how anyone can teach a course about translation without some fluency in the variety of languages introduced in this course. After some discussion among the linguists on the committee, Warren suggested that the questions related to translation will force students to learn about cultures and so the course will become, yes, interdisciplinary. Kramer finally admitted that he just didn't get it; Whiteside's response to this admission was to advise Kramer to take the

class. Passed.

Given the difficulties of discussing courses in such difficult circumstances—little time, no syllabus, etc.—Whiteside suggested inviting faculty members to Gen. Ed. to answer our questions.

B. Petition to AS&D Moved by Schussheim-Anderson, seconded by Warren, passed.

C. Removing LPs from classes

At this point Ann Earel left the meeting.

Several noted that removing LP designations (in this case PLs from English classes) might have unintended consequences for the rest of the community, so any proposed change in the status of a course should at least be run by Liesl Fowler to judge the impact on LP offerings for any given year.

III.

A. Assessment Plan for PH. Delayed til next meeting for lack of time. Meeting adjourned at 5:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe McDowell