

General Education Council
Minutes
December 10, 2012
10:00 – 11:30 a.m.
PAC 493

Present:

Steve Schnebly
John Martin
Peter Shapinsky
Lan Dong
Richard Gilman-Opalsky
Patricia Byrnes
Dorothy Hemmo
Karen Moranski
Harshavardhan Bapat
Tung Nguyen

Absent:

Samia Ahmad

I. Announcements

Thank you to Lan Dong for filling in for Donna Bussell this semester. Donna will be returning in the spring.

II. Approval of Minutes from November 26, 2012

Richard Gilman-Opalsky motioned to approve the minutes, John Martin seconded the motion. There were 7 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 abstention.

Action: Karen and Steve will approve HIS 424 if it comes back during the break and meets the requirements from Council.

III. Revisions to ECCE Categories

A. Members' comments/suggestions to the Global Awareness criteria.

It was stated that Language courses could possibly fit into U.S. Communities as well as Global Awareness.

At the last meeting Steve Schnebly asked the group to bring their changes on the Global Awareness criteria to this meeting. Steve would possibly like to change the Preferred Course Features and use the Comparative Societies criteria as a model for revising the other criteria.

ACTION: Deb will set up a meeting with Karen, Steve and Peter sometime in January to write out a draft of the Global Awareness criteria to bring to the spring session.

Steve wrote some notes into the criteria and will bring his draft to the sub-committee and incorporate them into the final version.

B. Other ideas that were discussed:

1. Make a list from the Master Course list of all 200 level ECCE courses that have ever been taught.
2. Take a survey of Faculty, Advisors, Deans, Registration, DARS, and Graduation personnel that “we are considering a change of policy on whether 200 level courses should be allowed to be taught as ECCE”. This could also be discussed in Dean’s Council.
3. Transfer students with 60 hours are at a disadvantage to taking 200 level ECCEs. CBM may say it is problematic and would advise against it. The requirements are higher for transfers than the University minimum.
4. Remember the policy: “Students cannot take courses for lower division to count for ECCE”. 200 level ECCE messes with this policy. We should only have upper division Gen Ed and lower division Gen Ed.
5. It was asked that if there is no substantive reason for having a 200 level, why go through with a survey? Why can’t GECO make a concession and move to correct it? It could be a draw for Departments to get students to take course like African-American Studies or Women/Gender Studies. Check with Kamau Kemayo regarding his 200 level African-American Studies courses as he was on the original committee. AAS 241 is Social Science and AAS 242 is ECCE. This needs to be cleaned up.

ACTION: Deb will make a list taken from the Master Course List of all 200 level ECCE courses. Karen Moranski will look for Gen Ed working group notes and e-mail strings from Richard Gilman-Opalsky, Pinky Wassenberg & Karen Moranski regarding PSC 231, and talk to departments and faculty who teach a 200 level ECCE course.

Also continue with CAP Honors special concessions or move their 200 level to 300 level courses. Karen will talk to them as well. We will need to look at the syllabi again if their 200 level is eliminated and are revised.

IV. U. S. Communities Criteria

The same discussion was made on the U. S Communities criteria and to define what we mean by community. Possibly get a draft for U.S. Communities done in the spring and have the meeting in the fall for those that use it. Also try to make the criteria easier to use and to be more inclusive to business majors, etc.

ACTION: Get the Global Awareness proposed version together first, then schedule a meeting.

Karen Moranski will host a luncheon to go over the course criteria. She will need two hours soliciting feedback from those using the criteria. One hour for each criteria and get indirect assessment. She will give them a copy of the proposed changes.

Steve requested the Council to think about what communities mean, and what are the three things they want out of a U.S. Communities course? Also think about how to evaluate these courses.

The next meeting will be held on January 28, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Ply