

General Education Council  
Minutes  
September 8, 2014  
10:00 – 11:30  
PAC 493

---

Present:

Heather Dell  
Steve Schnebly  
Anibal Maximiliano Sanchez  
Pamela Salela  
Mark Wrighton  
Lucia Vazquez  
Karen Moranski  
Deb Ply

Absent:

Kenneth Owen

Before the meeting, Deb Ply reminded all members that if they have not taken their Open Meetings Act test, to do so and send their certificates to the Campus Senate office.

1. Approval of Minutes of April 28, 2014
  - a. There was one typo to be corrected.
  - b. The Language policy is contingent upon Maxi Sanchez, Peter Shapinsky, and Tena Helton who are working on data before holding two campus forums. When they are ready Heather Dell will put it forward along with the changes to the Global Awareness category.

**ACTION:** There were 3 yeas and 1 abstention per new committee member. The yeas have it and the minutes were approved.

2. Approval of Courses

- A. SOA 426: ECCE: Teen Talk: Culture and Adolescence – U.S. Communities -1<sup>st</sup> Reading

**ACTION:** Instructor is to make interdisciplinarity clearer and to bring in more cultural issues related to teens. Heather Dell will work with Jennifer Manthei on this course.

- B. ENG 138: Introduction to Drama Humanities – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading

**ACTION:** approved by consensus

3. UNI 301 Proposal – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading

Some students are taking two 4 hour ECCE courses that are required in the major. Along with the 1 hour speaker series, they are still 1 hour short of the 9 hour ECCE requirement. The petition request is to change the catalog copy to read that the students can take either three 3 credit hours or two 4 credit hours and waive the last hour. Or convert all ECCE to 3 credit hours.

**ACTION:** Find out which majors are struggling with this issue and bring back to the table. Look to see how many 4 hour ECCE courses there are and should the wording change regarding taking a minimum of three ECCE courses instead of 2-3 ECCE courses equaling 9 hours.

Gen Ed Council wants clarify the policy of how many ECCE courses students are required to take by requiring three courses in Global Awareness, U.S. Communities and/or Engagement Experience.

4. Update on Languages

There needs to be some data gathering in order to introduce language into Gen Ed requirement. We are looking to see where it would have the most impact.

Tena Helton's e-mail suggested that we do not put the proposal through governance until it is well prepared first. We should do all the research first before the open forum. One is if we are going to require at least 6 hours of language for all undergraduate students, and another one is how many of our transfer students bring in language hours. We may be able reduce the number of sections. Brian Catherwood from Admissions is helping to gather data.

It was brought up how UIS would deal with online language courses. This is another discussion that needs to be had after the data comes out.

Heather Dell will move forward when the proposal is finished. Communication will be sent to the groups who are looking to Gen Ed Council to hold the open forums within 30 days. Although there has been a delay in order to make sure the proposal is thorough, there may be some negative feedback.

5. General Education Report to the Senate

The report was reviewed and one change was made in the tentative GEC Co agenda for AY 2014-15.

*“GEC Co will consider eliminating attributes that designated a few 400-level courses as lower division general education shortfalls.”*

Meeting adjourned at 11:30.

Respectfully submitted,  
Deb Ply