General Education Council
Minutes
November 10, 2014
PAC 493
10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Present: Absent:
Steve Schnebly   Kenneth Owen
Pam Salela
Heather Dell
Anibal Maximiliano Sanchez
Mark Wrighton
Karen Moranski

I.   Approval of Minutes of October 27, 2014

        ACTION: There was a consensus to approve the minutes of October 27, 2014

II.   Approval of Courses

        SOA 325: ECCE: Latina/o USA – Existing course requesting ECCE U.S.
        Communities – 1st Reading

        Per Karen Moranski, add the following to the template for interdisciplinary
        courses. "In the course description the disciplines must be explicitly
        addressed and integration must be one of the learning outcomes". Deb will
        set a meeting with Heather and Karen to work on it in January.

        Need clarification from instructor how she is doing information literacy so that
        all students complete research for some assignments.

        ACTION: We have consensus on approving this course contingent upon
        instructor to make these clarifications and Heather will communicate the
        suggestions from Council.

III.   Speaker Series Mission
        Annelle Rivera-Beckstrom put together a mission statement and presented it
        to Kimberly Craig and the Gen Ed Council subcommittee for ECCE Speaker
        Series. It is being presented to the full committee for their review.

==ACTION: The committee would like to see some language changes in the mission statement. There were also two formatting and punctuation changes. The full revised statement is attached to these minutes below.==

IV.   9 hour ECCE Loopholes

This discussion came about due to an influx of petitions to use a 2nd ECCE Speaker Series as one more hour of ECCE requirement. Students must take 9 credit hours in at least two categories of ECCE plus one Speaker Series.

We used to require 13 credit hours which was reduced to 10 with an expectation that the student would take three courses in at least 2 categories and then a 1 hour Speaker Series. They could mix and match between Global Awareness, U.S. Communities or Engagement Experience categories. This left room for 6 hours of an internship.

There were many scenarios discussed as to how students could reach their 10 hours of ECCE requirement. The main problem was how to close the loophole that allows students to take 2 four hour courses and then submit a petition to allow them to take a 2nd Speaker Series to reach the 10 hours.

An example of this is in the Computer Science Department. They have a 4 hour curriculum and have created two 4 hour ECCE courses. Their students take both courses in fulfillment of curriculum. We have not previously allowed them to double dip ECCE and Program. Now we are allowing it. These are students that do not do internships that end up petitioning. They take U.S. Communities and Global Awareness and end up 1 hour short. They would need to take another course outside of CSC who has 15 sections of ECCE. Reducing sections in CSC would force students to find other courses outside their discipline. This would also reduce the burden of teaching ECCE in CSC.

If we clarify the language in the catalog, the change will need to go through Undergraduate Council and Campus Senate.

==ACTION: For now, Council agreed to enforce the 9 hour rule plus 1 hour Speaker Series even if it means students take 3 courses and go over the 9 hours. They voted to agree by 3 out of 4 with 1 abstention. Karen Moranski will begin denying those petitions.==

V.   Update on Language

Maxi Sanchez summarized his findings on what other universities do in regard to their language requirements. He stated the proposal is being worked on by himself, Tena Helton and Peter Shapinsky. Then it will go to Gen Ed Council, Undergraduate Council and Senate. This might mean we will need to hold open meetings with faculty and students.

VI.   Global Awareness Retreat

The date for the Global Awareness Retreat has been changed to December 5 to accommodate more faculty. On the previous date of November 14, there were several all day long events that would require faculty to attend.

Respectfully submitted,
Deb Ply

ECCE Speaker Series Mission

Through its events, the ECCE Speaker Series strives to

- increase understanding of issues of citizenship and common concern among UIS students;
- engage the UIS community and larger regional and global communities in important conversations about the public good; and social justice;
- inspire its audience to participate in the conversations and act in the world as socially responsible, engaged citizens.

The Speaker Series is founded on and promotes the following ECCE learning outcomes for our students:

- recognize the social responsibility of the individual within a larger community.
- practice awareness of and respect for the diversity of cultures and peoples in this country and in the world.
- reflect on the ways involvement, leadership, and respect for community occur at the local, regional, national, or international levels.
- identify how economic, political, and social systems operate now and have operated in the past.
- engage in open-minded and ethical decision-making and action.
- distinguish the possibilities and limitations of social change.