

General Education Council
Minutes
November 28, 2016
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Location: PAC 493

Present: Sherine Antoun, Pamela Salela, Steve Schnebly, Ken Owen, Sean Blackwell, Carrie Switzer, Heather Dell, Bob Blankenberger, Ronda Mitchell, Tena Helton, Kay McChesney, Deb Ply

I. Approval of Minutes – November 14, 2016

ACTION: Ken Owen motioned to approve the minutes of November 14, 2016; Ronda Mitchell seconded the motion and it passed 7 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstention.

Ken Owen motioned to change the agenda order and discuss foreign languages first. Heather Dell explained how the agenda was put together and why the items are where they are. The concern was the delay in following up with campus forums. Tena Helton seconded and Ken Owen asked for it to be brought up to #2. The vote was 2 in favor, 4 against, 3 abstentions. The motion failed. It was then decided that Deb will set up a special meeting just for foreign languages early next semester.

II. Global Awareness Faculty Guide to Recertification.

ACTION: Kay McChesney motioned to adopt a complete bibliographic information section in the course syllabus template. Tena Helton seconded with some editing.

Kay McChesney amended her motion to say that this guideline document be adopted by the General Education Council. Tena Helton seconded the motion as amended. The motion was approved unanimously 9 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstention.

III. Discussion: General Education Council questionnaire from Ranjan Karri, Campus Senate Chair.

- A proposal was made to expand the representation of all departments which would be about 38 departments to represent the diverse population of students. Sherine Antoun motioned to include a member of each department to the General Education Council and that membership be voluntary. There were no seconds and the motion failed.
- At 11:27 a.m., Sherine Antoun motioned to extend the discussion 20 minutes. Tena Helton seconded and it passed 9 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstention.
- Kay McChesney motioned to respond to #1 on the questionnaire and that we do not see a need for changes to this committee at this time, Tena Helton, Pamela Salela, Ken Owen and Sean Blackwell seconded it. 9 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstention.

- Ken Owen motioned to respond to #4 of the questionnaire that GECO believes there is no considerable overlap between its function and those of Undergraduate Council and Graduate Council, and that the formation of an Education Policy Committee would therefore be unwieldy and inadvisable. Kay McChesney seconded the motion and it passed 8 in favor, 1 against, 0 abstention.
- Sherine Antoun motioned to go ahead and deal with number IV of the agenda and come back to the questionnaire. There were no seconds so the motion failed.
- Ken Owen motioned to vote on #6 of the questionnaire regarding whether the SEC should elect members and Chair of GECO. Kay McChesney moved that we propose that the Chair of the General Education Council should be elected by its members at end of the current academic year for the following academic year, and the Chair should not have to be a member of the Senate. Ken Owen seconded. An amendment to the motion was added “if the members are selected by the Committee on Committees”. The motion was approved 8 in favor, 1 against, 0 abstention.
- There was discussion regarding feedback to the Campus Senate about the clarity and suitability of the questions. Also the tone, assumptions and speed of which the answers are to be returned without time to deliberate these important functions of the General Education Council. Heather Dell will write a memo to Senate to ask for more time to deliberate these issues.
- There was a consensus that this committee works very well although some improvements may be needed.

IV. SOA 441 ECCE Global Social Stratification – Global Awareness recertification

Sherine Antoun motioned to quickly review this course, Kay McChesney seconded. Ken Owen had to leave but we still had a quorum.

ACTION: Pamela Salela motioned to approve SOA 441 for recertification of Global Awareness, Tena Helton seconded the motion. Kay McChesney mentioned she would like to see a bibliography and that the readings are good but not complete. Pamela Salela seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously 8 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstention.

A Special Meeting on Foreign Languages will be held at the beginning of the Spring, 2017 semester.

Foreign Language Info FAQ. Additional documents: MLA foreign language requirements survey 200910, 2015 employer student survey, Employer Priorities chart 2015 AACU.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:04 pm.

Respectively submitted,
Deb Ply