

General Education Council  
Minutes  
December 7, 2015  
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.  
Location: PAC 493

Present: Kay McChesney, Steve Schnebly, Lan Dong (for Lucia Vazquez), Heather Dell, Ronda Mitchell, Anibal Maximiliano Sanchez, Karen Moranski, John Laubersheimer, Ken Owen

Absent: Elizabeth Kosmetatou

I. Approval of Minutes of November 9, 2015

**ACTION:** It was requested that we add to the end of item II regarding the approval of SOA 428 that “while the instructor offered a memo of explanation of GEC concerns, the syllabus remains the same.”

Kay McChesney motioned to accept the minutes of November 9 with the addition; Ronda Mitchell seconded the motion and there were 6 yeas, 0 nays, 1 abstention.

II. Ratification of Speaker Series Event Slate

The slate for Spring 2016 was shared. Ken Owen is on the sub-committee to approve proposals. He explained the process of approving event proposals for Speaker Series.

**ACTION:** John Laubersheimer motioned to approve the Speaker Series Event Slate for Spring, 2016, Anibal Maximiliano Sanchez seconded the motion and all were in favor of ratification.

Heather Dell commented on and would like to see in the minutes that Maria Elena Rivera-Beckstrom (Annelle), Speaker Series Coordinator, has done a marvelous job heading up the event scheduling. Annelle will be moving to Boston in a couple of months. Another search will be underway shortly.

III. UNI 301 Student Feedback Form – See Current Meeting Materials

Heather Dell explained what this form is for, however there is a more recent updated form that will be presented at the next meeting.

IV. Discussion Items

A. Part Time, Full Time Ratios by Gen Ed Category-See Current Meeting Materials

1. Course Prefixes by Four Gen Ed Categories – Fall 2012-Spring 2015
2. Gen Ed Courses by Group – 102315

We are waiting for a more detailed report, but in the meantime Heather Dell discussed why we are looking at these figures.

The data is to explore how many tenure/tenure track faculty and adjuncts are teaching Gen Ed/ECCE courses. We need to keep the numbers to an 80/20 split; 80% tenure/tenure track faculty and 20% adjunct/full time instructors. This will help determine who is qualified to create syllabi in each of the categories. Departments may not be able to hire anyone to develop specific Gen Ed/ECCE courses. Karen Moranski cautions that when we set up Gen Ed and specified an 80/20 split, that not each department must have that particular split but the curriculum as a whole. The data will be ready for the spring meeting schedule.

#### B. CRF/GECO Task Force

Karen Moranski stated that Kay McChesney and Steve Schnebly are both members of the Collaborative Research Faculty (CRF) and Gen Ed Council. They helped to analyze student set projects. They reviewed five individual courses but six sets of student work products. That was a sizeable sample to get useable data. One of the findings is that faculty do not explicitly, in many cases, address the particular learning outcomes in their assignments. Therefore students are not addressing some of the important dimensions of global awareness, cultural or diversity. Students are showing a less than mediocre level of learning. We want to improve that level of learning. We are making some changes to the course approval criteria, and then will continue with faculty development. A Global Awareness retreat is being held the end of January. This will help faculty determine how to handle the five dimensions of the rubric to incorporate into their syllabus. Instructors are being encouraged to hand in their materials for review as soon as possible.

The faculty that have expressed their willingness to be a part of this task force are Jennifer Manthei, Tiffani Saunders, Laurel Newman, Heather Dell, Kay McChesney, Steve Schnebly.

#### C. Language Working Group

We will be looking at moving forward with a concrete proposal and hold campus open forums.

#### D. Notification of Course Changes - see current meeting materials/course changes and notifications

1. PHI 436 – Contemporary American Political Philosophy – level change to 336.
2. CAP 361 – ECCE: Peer Tutoring – Change in credit hours

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Ply