

**GENERAL EDUCATION COUNCIL MINUTES**

**FEBRUARY 16, 2009**

**PAC 4E**

**9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.**

**Present:**

Terry Bodenhorn  
Lan Dong  
Peter Shapinsky  
Bev Rivera  
Richard Gilman-Opalsky  
John Martin  
Karen Moranski  
Heather Dell  
Pinky Wassenberg  
Laurel Newman

**Absent:**

Waheedah Bilal – sent regrets  
Whitney Holland Kampwerth  
Martin Martsch

- I. Breakfast was provided by the Office of Undergraduate Education
- II. Approval of Minutes from February 2, 2009  
Bev Rivera motioned to approve minutes; Terry Bodenhorn seconded the motion and all were in favor.
- III. Approval of Courses

A. CPL/AST 305

This course needs to meet engaged citizenship especially in learning outcomes. Karen explained how this AST/CPL course got into GenEd. CPL got into the engagement experience right from the start. GenEd Working Group was trying to allow students to get a life experience. Elaine Rundle-Schwark mapped experiences to Baccalaureate ECCE learning outcomes. Learning-reflected learning outcomes for engagement experience apply best to CPL.

Discussed reasons how CPL should be incorporated into the Gen Ed process. It was suggested it be a case by case basis but Karen said we should not be doing it. There is no way we can look at every course. The responsibility is on Elaine to make sure these courses fit ECCE and meets proper criteria. GenEd's responsibility is to make sure what the criteria should be and CPL is to make sure they fit it. This group should not get involved in assignments. Someone should meet with Ross Garmil and go over specific assignments.

Heather will speak to Ross. He needs a section in the syllabus regarding learning outcomes and say that experience should meet baccalaureate learning outcomes and engaged experience. Students should figure out how this fits and write about it. He needs to understand the reason we are picky about it is because we will need to do an assessment eventually. CPL will not be excluded from assessment.

- B. AAS 362 is not ready to be reviewed – tabled until March 10, 2009.

IV. Comparison of SIU to UIS syllabi for student petition to use as ECCE.

After discussion, this petition was kicked back to the student to provide a full syllabus and not just a course description.

Karen does not feel we should be in the business of making decisions to accept outside courses as UIS requirement. It was also discussed if we do not accept outside syllabi, transfer students would not want to come here.

As this is a policy issue and we do not want to make it harder for transfer students, Laurel thought to create a subcommittee to bring to council on policy. Gather different petitions to see what they consist of and report back to committee.

V. CAP 102 Process Discussion

When CAP moved out of CLAS, it had no College to go to. Karen signs for CAP. This is similar to the Global Experience Courses, which Harry signs off on as "dean" for Jonathan Goldberg Belle. UNI courses go to CLAS, but most of CAP classes are designed to meet GenEd requirements. Neither CAP 102 nor CAP 402 are Gen Ed courses. We need someone to review them and make sense of it. CAP 102 is a college success course. The criteria for it need to be determined.

The CAP Faculty Steering Committee has approved the course at the program level vs. college level. As a professional courtesy Gen Ed should take on the role of college curriculum committee because they do not have one. It is a CAP honors program requirement.

GenEd Council has decided to take this policy issue to the Undergraduate Council to charge GenEd with the job of approving cap courses. GenEd Council will need training to be able to look at these courses but legally need to be established by senate to do so.

Geco cannot make decisions on their own to move out of the area of GenEd without Undergrad Council's charge. Karen will explore other possibilities.

VI. Baccalaureate Skills

An Assessment of the Course Level Guide was drafted by Richard Gilman-Opalsky and Peter Shapinsky as a guide to determine the level of baccalaureate courses as beginner, intermediate or advanced, so as to give students the skills needed to learn at a college level.

Peter requested a vote on releasing the document. It is to be clear it is a draft. Laurel suggested sending it out as a work in progress. Peter & Richard are to write a memo before it to say this is a draft and need help on it. They will send it first to the College Curriculum Committees then to Department Chairs.

Peter will send the memo around to get feedback as to the wording before sending it to the College Curriculum Committee.

## VII. Course Forms

Regarding the discussion of the February 2, 2009 meeting, the formatting of the course forms need to be revised because faculty do not know what to put on it. To alleviate this, we are investigating putting it on an electronic form.

All fields are required to be put into Banner for each item even if it does not apply. The faculty will answer the questions and if it doesn't apply skip to next item (but internally it would add a default answer to solve the Banner problem). This will also stop them from checking multiple ECCE categories.

Karen would like to do away with signatures altogether. By doing an electronic signature so we could forward it to the next person needed to review it.

The third issue is the course approval criteria. It is good that they were created but there are multiple sets of learning outcomes, one for each category. The faculty is confused as to which one is needed for their particular course. We need to simplify the course approval criteria to help faculty figure out what they need to satisfy.

A few suggestions made were to use drop down boxes, numbers instead of bullets and reduce number of bullets, and avoiding overlapping baccalaureate skills outcomes with learning outcomes. Deb Ply will explore how to design the form.

Looking at course categories, it was decided to do it as a large committee and then send them to a smaller sub category task force.

## VIII. Comparative Societies as a Model – Rewrite

Council ran out of time and decided to table this topic until March 2.

**The next General Education Council Meeting will be held on March 2, 2009 at the regular time of 10:00 a.m. in PAC 4E.**

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Ply