

General Education Council
Minutes
September 12, 2018
1:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.
UHB 2030

Attendees: Tena Helton, Stephanie Hedge, Kay McChesney, Sherine Antoun, Ken Owen, Sally LaJoie, Heather Dell, Robert Smith, Ken Mulliken, Lucia Vazquez

Absent: Steve Schnebly

Visitors: Linda McCown, Celeste Weuve for CLS 411; visiting faculty to discuss the proposal for the elimination of ECCE.

I. Approval of the Agenda

Stephanie Hedge motioned to approve the agenda. Heather Dell seconded and the motion passed 6 for approval, 0 against, 1 abstention

II. Approval of the Minutes of April 25, 2018

Sally LaJoie motioned to approve the minutes of April 25, 2018, Ken seconded and the motion passed 6 for approval, 0 against, 1 abstention.

III. Discussion Items

A. Report on the ECCE Speaker Series proposal process for AY2017-18 – Craig/Bree

Ken Owen reported that there are a decent number of proposals this year and if anyone is interested in submitting a proposal, to fill out the proposal form. He mentioned it is not GECO's responsibility to get proposals and if there are no particular events someone is looking for, then they haven't been proposed.

B. Memo to the General Education Council:

"The Clinical (Medical) Laboratory Science Program and I would like the Gen Ed Committee to reconsider the decision about the decertification of CLS 411, Health Care Management, as a U. S. Communities ECCE course. Let me know if our program can submit any further arguments or revisions. Thanks, Linda McCown"

Linda McCown is asking for a chance to revise and resubmit CLS 411 since it was denied last year. Some of the responses from the General Education Council are that we are willing to work with CLS again to revise this course in order to meet the criteria. Heather Dell offered to get more clarity from Linda to see if we understood the course correctly based on what we saw in the syllabus, then explaining that to the committee and offer the opportunity to be recertified.

Some of the arguments were based on department's specific requirements. It was stated that GEC Co as a committee cannot look at the specific requirements for each department and that this is a General Education program and these courses need to meet the criteria for General Education only.

Linda McCown stated that this is not a required course and thinks it can be revised. She is frustrated that this is an existing course that used a model for science when it was originated. Heather Dell explained the purpose of the HLC Collaborated Research Faculty and that HLC needed clarification of the category. The criteria was revised to meet the standards of what is being done and the kind of language being used across the country.

Much of the discussion ran into agenda item IV but the committee was encouraged to reconsider the course.

Proposal: 1) We have an option to revise and resubmit which we haven't done with others after they have been denied. 2) Another way is to submit it as a new course and have it go through the curriculum committee as opposed to creating another syllabus while others were not able to do the same.

ACTION: Ken Owen motioned for CLS 411 to go through the resubmission process or we would have a serious problem with re-evaluating all the courses that have been denied in the past year.

Kay McChesney seconded and the motion passed 4 for re-submitting as a new course, 1 against, 1 abstention.

IV. ECCE Proposals and Gen Ed Revision Process

A proposal was sent from the chairs of MIS, Business Administration, College of Business and Management Curriculum Committee, Computer Science, Public Health and the College of Education and Human Services to the Senate Executive Committee. A memo from SEC to the Undergraduate Council followed this proposal. The proposal was to eliminate the ECCE requirements for UIS. There was no guidance of how the General Education Council should proceed with it, so faculty are here to help GEC Co gather information and give their opinions. GEC Co did not want to argue the ECCE process at this particular time.

The proposal outlined the rationale for elimination of ECCE requirements and two specific options. "1) Eliminate the mandatory requirement of ECCE for all UIS undergraduate students or 2) eliminate the mandatory requirement of ECCE for UIS undergraduate students who are declared majors in CBM, EHS and departments of Public Health (PAA) and Computer Science (CLAS)."

It was stated in the memo that "The SEC would prefer to bring a closure to this proposal by the end of Fall 2018 semester and propose changes to the ECCE requirements at UIS to the campus senate by the end of Fall 2018 or early Spring 2019."

There were many suggestions and opinions on what the problems are and what processes to take in order to make reasonable decisions while allowing all involved to be heard.

It was suggested that the General Education Council would spearhead the conversation and write a report to the Undergraduate Council. The Associate Vice Chancellor for Undergraduate Education would house the data and collaborate with representatives of all faculty involved to hold forums and/or surveys for the purpose of collecting information. When the data is compiled, a retreat will be held to summarize and propose any changes in curriculum.

Along with these forums, it should be made clear what our mandate is from the Higher Learning Commission's fulfillment for UIS and our identity as a public arts university.

Tena Helton thanked everyone for coming and invited those to stay if they wished.

V. Recertification of U.S. Communities Courses

Ken Owen motioned to amend the agenda in order to review MGT 444 first. Stephanie Hedge seconded the motion and all approved to amend the agenda to bring MGT 444 to the front.

A. MGT 444 Work, Family and Community – Revised – 2nd Reading

ACTION: Ken Owen motioned to approve MGT 444 for recertification, Stephanie Hedge seconded and the motion passed 6 for recertification, 0 against, 1 abstention.

B. CCJ 343 Women & Criminal Justice – Revised – 2nd Reading

It was questioned how the course structure and discussion questions led by students are directed toward the criteria. There seems to not have enough language in the assignments or discussion questions regarding power inequities. It was suggested to include diversity questions in the assignment sheets or discussion questions with the language about power inequities.

Tena Helton will include adding key terms to the prompts in her memo to the instructor.

Stephanie Hedge motioned to approve CCJ 343 for recertification; Ken Owen made a friendly amendment to emphasize the U.S. Communities criteria. Ken Owen seconded and the motion passed 6 for recertification, 0 against, 1 abstention.

VI. Adjournment

Stephanie Hedge motioned to adjourn at 2:50 p.m., Sherine Antoun seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Ply