

General Education Council  
Minutes  
February 28, 2018  
1:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.  
PAC 493

Present: Sherine Antoun, Bob Blankenberger, Sally LaJoie, Ken Owen, Kay McChesney, Tena Helton, Stephanie Hedge, Heather Dell, Steve Schnebly

Absent: Lucia Vazquez

I. Approval of Minutes – February 14, 2018

ACTION: Heather Dell moved to approve the minutes of February 14, 2018, Sally LaJoie seconded and the motion passed 7 for approval, 0 against, 1 abstention.

II. Course Caps for online and ECCE

There was much discussion regarding the university proposal to increase caps on course enrollment for all university courses. The General Education Council has many concerns about the negative consequences this policy would have for the quality of education on curriculum that have been extensively developed for General Education and Engaged Citizenship Common Experience (ECCE).

ACTION: A memo will be sent to advise the Undergraduate Council and Faculty Senate that all ECCE courses should have an enrollment cap of no more than 25.

III. Approval of New Courses

CAP 356: Nationalism and Identity in Vietnam – New Global Awareness

ACTION: After some discussion and complimenting the use of global identity, cultural awareness with insider perspectives and biography assignments, there was still concern about the writings and the connection with the criteria.

Kay McChesney motioned to send this course back for a revise & resubmit in order to see a connection with the topics tied to student's essays and the course criteria. Ken Owen seconded and the motion passed 7 for R&R, 0 against, 1 abstention.

IV. Global Awareness Revised and Resubmitted (Recertification)

LIS 366: European Cinema

Stephanie Hedge worked with the instructor and although it seemed like she understood what should be included, the syllabus was not structured successfully when resubmitted.

**ACTION:** Steve Schnebly motioned to deny recertification of LIS 366 as a Global Awareness because it is not much different to the original version, without ECCE criteria. Kay McChesney seconded and the motion passed 5 for denial, 0 against, 3 abstentions.

V. Recertification of U.S. Communities Courses

A. CSC 442 Internet and American Life

There was debate on what meets diversity in specific communities in this course. Some think it does not emphasize specific groups and that it is a straight up internet course. Others believe the differences in age and class are communities and was written into the course. The reason we left the language of what is a community open in the criteria is because it is dangerous to be too disciplinary specific. The way diverse communities use the internet is in the spirit of the learning outcomes.

It was suggested to send back for a revise and resubmit to add specific communities. The research paper could be up to the students to provide the community. It was also mentioned that this course is too topically driven and that there would be too much to revise. Sherine Antoun tried to explain how communities fit into this course but the committee decided to vote.

**ACTION:** Heather Dell motioned to deny recertification of CSC 442 as a U.S. Communities course. Kay McChesney seconded and the motion carried 5 for denial, 3 against, 0 abstention.

B. ACC 454 Regulation and the American Economy

There are no readings in this 400 level class. No in depth assigned writing or research, and there are no presentations or heavy discussion topics listed. It seems to be only a topic driven course. It is a good course that could be a great ECCE course although it is not at this time. It is missing the identity of community and has a bit of nuance to understanding the groups and people's experiences.

**ACTION:** Ken Owen motioned to deny recertification of ACC 454 as a U.S. Communities course, Sherine Antoun seconded and the motion passed 7 for denial, 0 against, 1 abstention.

VI. Adjournment

Stephanie Hedge motioned to adjourn, and since we had extra time she suggested to add more to the agenda next time in order to get through the list of courses up for recertification.

To fill in some of the extra time, there was more discussion on class caps. Ken Owen shared the draft memo he wrote that would be from GEC to Senate. After review, there was a consensus to allow the draft to go through with a couple minor changes.

Ken Owen seconded the motion to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Ply