

General Education Council  
Minutes  
October 10, 2018  
1:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.  
UHB 2030

Present: Steve Schnebly, Ken Owen, Sherine Antoun, Lucia Vazquez, Stephanie Hedge, Joseph Partain, Heather Dell, Kay McChesney, Tena Helton, Sally LaJoie

Absent: Ken Mulliken, Robert Smith, Amie Kincaid

Visitors: Dennis Ruez, Svet Braynov, Lucas Vespa, Yanhui Guo, Joshua Smith, Toni Waggoner

I. Approval of Agenda – October 10, 2018

ACTION: Sherine Antoun motioned to amend the agenda to allow the Committee to read and discuss the e-mail from SEC regarding the ECCE Process Recommendation. There was no second motion. Ken Owen motioned not to amend the agenda and postpone the discussion of the process recommendation. Stephanie Hedge seconded and the motion passed 7 for keeping the agenda as is, 0 against, 2 abstentions.

II. Approval of Minutes – September 26, 2018

ACTION: Ken Owen motioned to approve the minutes with the amended section Approval of ECCE Revision Process, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph, to read:

One suggestion was to form a GEC<sub>o</sub> sub-committee to formulate this process, and it should be GEC<sub>o</sub>-led. Then the committee would lead the discussions. Another suggestion was to form a GEC<sub>o</sub> subcommittee for the process, comprised of an equal number of GEC<sub>o</sub> and non-GEC<sub>o</sub> members. Another suggestion was to get guidance from Undergraduate Council on how to proceed then send a proposal to the Senate Executive Committee. The majority of the committee came to consensus that the first suggestion was best moving forward.

Joseph Partain seconded and the discussion continued. A vote was taken and 8 approved the amended minutes, 0 against, 1 abstention.

III. Approval of New Courses

A. ENS 155: T.rex, Sabercats, and Trilobites: Bringing the Past to Life – New Freshman Seminar

ACTION: The Committee thought that more mapping of the objectives to specific assignments would help strengthen the course. The Committee would like to see the assignment and how it will factor into the grade and not just what is covered in the topic. They also would like to see how the library research is integrated within the class as well as the following objectives: employing appropriate communication skills; calculate course grade and GPA; college-level note-taking; demonstrate technological literacy; development of oral communication skills; citing sources.

Ken Owen motioned to Revise & Resubmit, Kay McChesney seconded and the motion passed 8 for R&R, 0 against, 1 abstention.

B. BIO 438 : Medical Quackery (online) – New U.S. Communities

ACTION: The Committee would like to see specific communities impacted by quackery and to address them and diversities in the weekly assignments. Also to specify how those affected communities are portrayed.

Ken Owen motioned to Revise & Resubmit, Joseph Partain seconded and the motion passed 7 for R&R, 1 against, 1 abstention.

Tena Helton will work with the instructor.

IV. Recertification of U.S. Communities Courses

A. CCJ 347: Race, Class and Social Justice – Revised

The Committee commended the instructor for the clarity of the revision which made it easier to see the revised portions.

Ken Owen motioned to approve recertification, Stephanie Hedge seconded. There was a suggestion to make the language in the course description more measureable such as in Bloom's taxonomy. The Committee voted 5 for recertification, 0 against, 2 abstentions.

B. WGS 301: Introduction to Women and Gender Studies

ACTION: Kay McChesney motioned to approve WGS 301 for recertification, Joseph Partain seconded. There was some discussion and the committee suggests there be more research and writing which will strengthen the course and reinforce student's skills. Sherine Antoun called the question. The vote was 6 for approval of recertification, 1 against, 2 abstentions.

C. WGS 403: Women of Color and Minority Women

ACTION: It was stated that there is a lack of defined research or solid writing requirements for a 400 level course. The assignments should be mapped directly to the course objectives along with a percentage of the course grade assigned to the objectives will indicate how well the students meet them.

Stephanie Hedge motioned to Revise & Resubmit, Sherine Antoun seconded and the motion passed 8 for R&R, 0 against, 1 abstention. Stephanie Hedge will work with the instructor.

There was a consensus to stop recertifying courses at this meeting and go to item V. The following courses will go on the agenda for the next meeting.

- D. COM 425 Intercultural Communication
- E. SOA 426: Teen Talk Classic: Stories of Culture and Adolescence
- F. WGS 322: Gay and Lesbian Studies
- G. WGS 338: Sex, Gender, Pop Culture
- H. WGS 457: Masculinities

V. Time Limit on revisions before decisions

The guideline for the chair is to remind the instructors of the catalog restrictions and deadlines.

VI. Technology and Information Literacy – Sherine Antoun

Sherine Antoun and the visiting Svet Braynov, chair of Computer Science, brought up their desire to add computer science to the general education curriculum as a new category. Dr. Braynov talked about us being in a digital society and that computer science is a science. And why does the general education favor physical and life science and not computer science when computers shape every layer of society and when we give students projects, computers shape who they are. Computer Ethics and History of Technology are among other courses being taught. Every high school now offers these courses and students transfer to UIS with computer science courses.

The meeting time is up so Sherine Antoun motioned to extend the meeting 10 more minutes. There was no second. Joseph Partain motioned to adjourn. There was no second. Heather Dell motioned to extend the meeting 3 more minutes, Ken Owen seconded and the discussion resumed.

It was discussed that in order to add computer science to the general education curriculum CSC needs to follow the procedures as outlined in the Levels of Governance chart. They will need to begin by writing a formal proposal with individual set of objectives and learning outcomes, then send it around for signatures.

It was suggested that CSC use a model of other science criteria and of other categories to help them formulate their own criteria.

VII. Adjournment

Steve Schnebly motioned to adjourn, Stephanie Hedge seconded and the meeting adjourned at 2:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Deb Ply