

General Education Council
Minutes
October 25, 2017
1:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.
UHB 2028

Present: Sherine Antoun, Ken Owen, Stephanie Hedge, Kay McChesney, Tena Helton, Sally LaJoie

Absent: Steve Schnebly, Bob Blankenberger, Lucia Vazquez

I. Approval of Minutes – October 11, 2017

Ken Owen motioned to approve the minutes of October 11, 2017; Sherine Antoun seconded and the motion passed 5 for approval, 0 against, 0 abstention.

II. Discussion Items

A. The impact of the course scheduling grid on general education.

The Campus Senate Chair requested that the General Education Council review and give feedback about how the suggested new course scheduling grid could affect general education.

It is difficult to see the implementation if classes were to go from two to three days per week. There was much discussion about staffing multiple sections and the hardship on non-traditional students, so retention is an issue as well as a pedagogy one. Also the amount of time some classes take to prep, e.g. sciences. A shortened class time may be a problem, especially for labs. Another concern is the possibility of this change being mandatory or optional.

Courses are not scheduled by Gen Ed but rather by departments. We have enough of a mix of Gen Ed categories to offer with possibly the exception of Freshman Seminar where there are not enough faculty to teach them.

Tena Helton will send a response to Campus Senate from the General Education Council.

B. Compensation for Committee Chairs.

Another issue brought up by the Campus Senate Chair is to request feedback regarding the compensation faculty receive for chairing committees. In the past General Education Council Chairs received one release in the fall and one in the spring. Now it is only one per year. Based on the number of hours this Chair puts in to this committee, that could be problematic.

Tena Helton will send a response to the Campus Senate from the General Education Council.

III. Approval of New Courses

CSC 291: Algorithms and Problem Solving-New Physical Science, returned with change of course level

ACTION: After much discussion regarding whether or not this course meets the physical science criteria, it was decided to ask for a list of readings that correlate to the lectures and an explanation of why this course fits the physical science category. This discussion needs to continue in order to give the Instructor all the points needed for a Revise & Resubmit. Ken Owen motioned to table this review. Stephanie Hedge seconded and the motion passed 5 for tabling, 0 against, 1 abstention.

IV. Recertification of Global Awareness Courses

A. PSC 464: Latin American Politics – R&R Returned

Adriana Crocker was present with her revised syllabus. The reading load was cause of concern but it was suggested that even though this may be 400 level it is still an undergraduate course and the discussions may be relevant no matter how much reading there is.

ACTION: Stephanie Hedge motioned to recertify PSC 464, Kay McChesney seconded and the motion passed 4 for recertification, 1 against, 1 abstention.

B. CAP 254: Walls – tabled from last meeting

There was discussion regarding the need for more information on where different cultures occur in the course calendar and assignments. The Instructor is being requested to specify a cultural component in exam questions and other assignments along with an amended calendar.

ACTION: Kay McChesney motioned to Revise and Resubmit, Ken Owen seconded and the motion passed 6 for R&R, 0 against, 0 abstention.

C. ENS 311: Global Change in Local Places – R&R Returned with schedule

The criteria was met with this revision.

ACTION: Stephanie Hedge motioned to recertify ENS 311, Ken Owen seconded and the motion passed 5 for recertification, 1 against, 0 abstention.

D. LIS 447: Symbolist Movement in Europe: 1850-1920

ACTION: Sherine Antoun motioned to send this back as a revise and resubmit as it does not seem to have any academic readings. There was no second so the motion did not carry.

After more discussion, it was explained that the readings are academic and sufficient for global awareness.

Ken Owen motioned to approve LIS 447 for recertification, Stephanie Hedge seconded and the motion passed 5 for recertification, 1 against, 0 abstention.

Tabled for next meeting – Global Awareness Course Recertification

CAP 255: How the World Works – R&R Returned

LIS 366: European Cinema

LIS 432: Expatriate Paris

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Ply