General Education Council Meeting Minutes  
Weds., Sept. 19, 2012  
3:30 – 5:00 pm, Leadership Room

Attendees

Voting Members: Margaret Baldwin (COTA; TPS); Beth Daniell (HSS; English); Tom Doleys (HSS; Political Science); Edward Eanes (COTA; Music); Debbie Geist (UC; FYP); Amy Howton (HSS; HPS); Matt Laposata (SCM; Biology); Noah McLaughlin (HSS; Foreign Languages); Huggins Msimanga (SCM; Chemistry); Sandra Parks (COTA; Dance); Jan Phillips (HSS; Communication); Nancy Hoalst Pullen (HSS; Geography); Tom Pynn (HSS; Philosophy); Teresa Raczek (HSS; Anthropology); Masako Racel (HSS; History); Gail Scott (HSS; Psychology); Kristen Seaman (COTA; Visual Arts); Bruce Thomas (SCM; Mathematics/Statistics); Chris Totten (HSS; Criminal Justice); Linda Treiber (HHS; Sociology); Guichun Zong (EDUC; Secondary Ed. and Middle Grades).

Nonvoting Members: Valerie Whittlesey (Academic Affairs)

I. Global Learning Across the General Education Curriculum Faculty Learning Community Final Report

During the 2011-12 academic year, Linda Treiber led a FLC on General Education across the General Education curriculum. This FLC consisted of Margaret Baldwin (Theatre and Performance Studies), Joy Brookshire (Biology), Jan Phillips (Communication), Masako Racel (History), Gail Scott (Psychology), Chris Totten (Criminal Justice), and Linda Treiber (Sociology). The group developed goals for the project. Some of the goals included: 1) identify what global education means personally and within the context of KSU, 2) define intercultural competence, knowledge, and skills, 3) identify skills students need in a globalized world, and 4) identify ways in which general education courses can help students gain these skills. The group read three relevant books. Using one of the books, Haiti after the Earthquake by Paul Farmer, each FLC participant designed one or several lectures relating to the book for their general education courses. These curriculum designs were presented in the appendices. This exercise demonstrated how a variety of disciplines can approach a specific global learning topic. Linda and Val recommended that GEC members review the appendices to see how they might be able to incorporate these or similar materials into their GE courses.

II. IT 2101 (Computers and Your World)

Val provided an update. The course was not approved by the USG General Education Council twice, during spring semester and during summer. The feedback from the USG Gen. Ed. Council is that they are rethinking the course, since many students come to college having significant computers skills. Since little feedback was provided to assist with resubmitting the proposal, FYP is in a holding pattern with the course proposal right now. President Papp is aware of the decision, and we are hoping he might gain some information to assist us in determining how to proceed.

III. IRB Submission- General Education Assessment

Val would like to submit the IRB proposal for general education assessment on Friday, Sept. 28. It is important to get an early start, since the first wave (English and Political Science) begin actual data collection during spring semester. Several edits were provided to the proposal. Val will incorporate the proposed edits into the proposal and ask Tom Doleys to
proof the document before it is sent to the IRB Chair. The group agreed with this plan. Val also asked all DACs who have not completed the IRB training who want to use general education assessment data for scholarship (presentations and publications) to submit the completion certificate to her by Sept. 28.

IV. General Education Course Syllabus template

The GEC approved a paragraph about the general education program for incorporation into general education course syllabi during spring semester. This paragraph is on the General Education Program webpage of the Academic Affairs webpage. The GEC agreed there should be a reference to this paragraph in Section 3 (Workload and Institutional Expectations) of the KSU Faculty Handbook. Sandra, who is on the Faculty Senate this year, and Val will take this proposed insertion to the faculty handbook to the Faculty Senate.

V. 2012-17 KSU Strategic Plan

Val directed the group to Goal 4, Objective 3, Action Step 3, which is relevant general education. It states: Integrate broadly defined diversity and inclusion curricula into the academic core. Val indicated that the GEC has already committed to this action step, but we should continue to keep this action step in mind over the next five years.

VI. KSU Preview Days

Kim West indicated that KSU will have several KSU Preview Days specifically devoted to high achieving high school students. The goal is to more intentionally recruit these students to KSU. Val sent Kim the General Education video to Kim and asked him to include the video during these visits.

Meeting Adjourned.