

General Education Council Meeting

Weds., April 15, 2015

University College, Room 202

Members Present: Lindsey Archer (COTA: Dance); Margaret Baldwin (COTA: Theatre and Performance Studies); Cathy Bradford (UC: FYTS); Tom Doleys (CHSS: Political Science); Ed Eanes (COTA: Music); Amy Howton (HHS: Health Promotion and Physical Education); Matt Laposata (CSM: Ecology, Evolution, and Org. Biology); Stephen Bartlett (CHSS: History); Susan Rouse (CHSS: Philosophy); Michael Patrono (Coles: Economics); Barbara Salyer (Bagwell College); Gail Scott (CHSS: Psychology); Kristen Seaman (COTA: Art and Design); Cristine Stephens (CHSS: Sociology); Bruce Thomas (CSM: Mathematics).

Visitors Present: Chris Hutt (UC: NEST); Chien-Pin Li (CHSS: Dean's Office).

I. Approval of Jan. 21 meeting minutes

There was a motion and second to approve the March 18 meeting minutes. There was a unanimous yes voice vote.

II. General Education Assessment- Tom Doleys

Tom indicated that pre-consolidation, we would be completing a full cycle of gen. ed. assessment at the end of this 2015-16 academic year.

With the consolidation, things have changed. Our SACSCOC 10-year reaccreditation will not occur in 2016, but 2017, and we have a different core. That means the new core courses and LOs need to be assessed, and we need to continue assessment (in a scaled back way) for the areas that we have been assessing.

Beginning fall, 2015, we need to identify DACS for the areas of the core that have not been assessed yet: Areas C1 (Literature), D1 (Quantitative), D2 (Biology), E2 (US History), and E4 (Economics).

Tom will be also reach out to those continuing DACs to participate in assessment at a scaled back level.

Critical thinking is the LO mapped to core area B, and we need identify a critical thinking instrument for the area. There are many CT instruments out there. Tom is soliciting input on considerations for determining the best instrument: 1) multiple-choice or written format, 2) scored by faculty vs. a third party, etc. We also need to look at the various ways that the instruments can be embedded into the B courses.

Gail suggest doing pre-post testing if we are using a "canned" instrument.

Matt suggested that Tom reach out to Scott Reese in Biology.

III. General Education Council Structure for new U.

The Gen. Ed. Council structure is changing with the split of Biology into two departments. 1) There will

be a council member will representing Ecology, Evolution, and Organismal Biology, and 2) there will be a council member representing Molecular and Cellular Biology.

Tom distributed a sheet of the 2015-16 GEC structure and asked members to indicate on that form who will be serving if that has been determined in their departments.

IV. General Education Program Description and Learning Outcomes

There are 2 different critical thinking outcomes. It was suggested that the GEC work on having one CT learning outcome for area B when we reconvene in August.

V. General Education Syllabus Common Language

Tom distributed the general education syllabus common language. It has been updated to the new core and the new LOs and overlays and will be posted on the GE webpage. Tom reminded the GEC to please share this document with the GE faculty and ask them to incorporate this language into their course syllabi.

VI. Core Areas B1 and E4 Proposal- Chien-Pin Li

Faculty from CHSS and from Coles have met to draft a proposal for core areas B2 and E4. As you recall, when the core for the new U. was originally submitted to the USG GEC during fall of 2014, Intro. to Psychology, Sociology, Anthropology, and Human Geography were placed in core area B1. The USG GEC rejected this proposal for two reasons: 1) those four courses are 3 credit hours and B1 courses should have been 2 credit hours and 2) those courses are social science courses and are typically placed in core area E at other USG institutions.

The recent proposal from CHSS and Coles consists of the following:

- 1) B1: Removing all 2105 Social Issues courses (in PSYCH, SOCI, GEOG, ANTH, CRJU, and STS) from the area and replacing these six courses with a 2 credit hour ECON 1100 course (Global Economics).
- 2) E4: Keeping ECON 2100 (Microeconomics) in the area and adding the following six courses, ANTH 1102 (Introduction to Anthropology), CRJU 1101 (Introduction to Criminal Justice), GEOG 1101 (Introduction to Human Geography), PSYC 1101 (Introduction to General Psychology), SOCI 1101 (Introduction to Sociology), and STS 1101 (Introduction to Science and Technology).

GEC members were asked to take this proposal back to their departments for input. The GEC would vote on the proposal in early August. The hope is to have the proposal approved for implementation fall of 2016.

VII. AASCU Re-Imagining the First Year of College

KSU was selected to participate in this initiative. The conference will be held June 24-26 in Orlando. The following individuals will attend from KSU: Val Whittlesey, Keisha Hoerrner, Michael Sanseviro, and Chien-Pin Li.

VIII. Association for General and Liberal Studies Annual Meeting

The call for proposals is now open. The conference will be held on Sept. 24-26 in Milwaukee. The links to the call for proposals is in the meeting agenda.

Announcement: The Gen. Ed. Retreat is scheduled for Aug. 13 at 9:00 – Noon in Prillaman, Room 1103.

The meeting was adjourned.

Next Regular Meeting (& last of 2014-15 academic year)- Weds, April 15, 3:30-5:00, University College, Room 202