

GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE
2005-2006

Minutes of Meeting: 2/1/06, 2:00 p.m. in JB-276

Members Present: Susan Finsen—A&L; C.E. Tapie Rohm, Jr.—BPA; Susan Spitzer—ED; Stephen Kinzey (Chair)—NS; Allen Butt—SBS; Milton Clark—Admin.

Absent: Ruben Diaz—ASI (Student Representative)

The minutes of the January 18, 2006 meeting were reviewed.

M/S/P It was moved by Milton Clark and seconded by Allen Butt and passed unanimously that the January 18, 2006 minutes be approved as corrected.

Old Business:

There was no old business pending at this time.

New Business:

1. Presentation of the Response to “Policy Guidelines for the General Education Program” (Milton)

Steve and Tapie thanked Milton for taking the time to compile the report, and the committee wanted Milton to know they were very appreciative of all the work it entailed.

Milton said it is just one way of how to approach this set and may need a new document with a new set of guidelines but do need the history of this included also. Existing policy guidelines could be included with a statement similar to: “In (1989) the Faculty Senate approved a set of guidelines for GE (see Appendix xx), etc. And it would be a historical record of how the courses evolved, but the new one will show the reasons for the new document.

Tapie asked if Milton had the newest system guidelines that were just sent within the last few days, which he will make sure are sent to him. It is their charge to look at our GE and see what we want to produce. He said the current package was done in 1989 and what they thought at that time is what was created and has not been changed since then. The historical information could be a preface to the FSD 91-06.R3 (or FAM 455).

These are recommendations for a starting point for discussion of the GE requirements. Milton’s report was reviewed item by item.

Item #1: Milton distributed a handout showing the various GE categories with the courses and number of units in each area and total for the category. The comment was made that Math 110 is repeated in Category A (as Basic Skills) and Category B (Natural Sciences Breadth Area). Steve added that Math

just happens to be in Natural Sciences because of the way our package is set up; and there was a discussion of some of the other courses that are not listed twice.

Milton said that the GE Committee has reviewed Math with Basic Skills in the past and Steve said it is listed in Category B and just thought it is a basic skills because everyone should have math.

As the discussion progressed, Tapie said that we can actually change this one rather than moving things around because this group needs to complete a document that works as the best package possible and then let Faculty Senate direct the argument, or we can include an, "We don't know what is best" statement with our recommendations.

Item #2: The question was asked if we need to invite offerings from other colleges. Tapie said he felt we should because some courses may be established here and if other colleges are included, then when it goes to Faculty Senate it won't be excluded there. The committee agreed and Milton said he will rewrite this item.

Item #3: Agreed.

Item #4: Tapie said there needs to be a re-definition of some kind (and gave the example of the last CSCI course that had to be returned to the department for further explanation of how it meets the requirements); we need a good definition so it will be clear when departments put in their new course proposals there is a better chance of them going forward rather than being returned.

He also stated that the requirements was originally made by our campus and was not part of the initial GE package; it was added by the last Task Force and that is why it needs more explanation. Tapie agreed to come up with some wording for a definition to be reviewed.

Item #5: Agreed.

Item #6: Susan said it is a good idea to separate the two because trying to double up Philosophy and Critical Thinking together just really is not going to work. The committee agreed to make the suggested recommendation.

Item #7: Milton mentioned that this could be a place where GE could be reduced as discussed in the *Recommendation* for this item. There was a quick discussion of PSci 203 and forcing students to make up the units.

Item #8: Milton said he made corrections to the existing wording in the Bulletin, but as discussed before, the committee may want to consider whether UDWR should be removed from the GE program.

Item #9: Implemented.

Item #10: Tapie will address the computer skills to the category(ies) as they are required to be instituted in the GE program.

Item #11: The committee feels the colleges should be surveyed to see if freshmen and sophomores are enrolling in capstone or other courses that they are not designated to be able to take and whether they

should be or are being “disenrolled.” The recommendation could be written such that the courses can be monitored, but the question of who and how arose. Susan said she would like to see some systematic data on this for use as needed. The colleges will be surveyed.

Item #12: Milton stated that the current requirement doesn’t quite fit the wording for Category E as it relates to Kinesiology 205 in E1. Steve stated that KINE 114 satisfies the PE requirement of Category E. There was a brief discussion about the Finance, Philosophy and Psychology classes in E2; we could say we explained Category E if we don’t want to reduce the units; however, after a discussion of credit-by-exam courses, the recommendation as written by Milton, was accepted.

Item #13: This is not happening and Milton said his office does not have the resources to make it happen; however, if the Senate would want it implemented, they would have to come up with something to help make it happen. The monitoring required to see if Upper-division transfer students have completed all the lower-division GE requirements within their first two quarters here would require much more staff and equipment than the university is willing/able to provide. It was stated that the university does stop the students on Math and English and Critical Thinking and Communication does get informed. We should dump it.

There was a brief discussion and the committee was asked to look over the remaining items, and Milton will send some items for review by the committee before the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, February 15, 2006 at 2:00 p.m. in JB-276.

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