GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE
214th Meeting
Thursday, April 24, 2014

MINUTES
Approved

Present: D. Chakraborty (LAS/PHYS), B. Coller (EET/MEE), D. Gorman (LAS/ENGL), J. Johnson (EDU/SEED), E. Klonoski (VPA/MUSC), M. Kolb (Ex-officio, Acting Associate Vice Provost), S. McDonald (Student/LAS/BIOS), C. Parker (Ex-Officio, Director, Office of Assessment Services), D. Smith (Catalog Editor), K. Thu (LAS/ANTH), J. Umoren (HHS/FCNS), K. Wiemer (UCC/LAS/PSYC)

The meeting was called to order by GEC chair Umoren.

I. Adoption of Agenda

Gorman made a motion, seconded by Chakraborty, TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. Motion passed unanimously.

II. Approval of Minutes

No minutes for approval.

III. Announcements

There were no announcements.

IV. Old Business

A. PLUS Task Force. The task force continues to collect feedback and assess data.

B. 2013 General Education Assessment Plan.

1. Discuss the suggestions in the plan. Thu reported that he, Kolb, and Parker met to discuss programmatic assessment, including the details of a concept draft prepared by Parker. Parker added that they also talked about trying to align programmatic assessment with the student learning objectives (SLOs). The GEC then discussed the work that has already been done regarding aligning with the SLOs and Thu said that he is in favor of having one set of data that departments can use for both annual review and general education. It was clarified that what the GEC could do is collect data on a rotating basis on the eight SLOs and how various general education courses meet those objectives. The GEC could then make recommendations based on the data collected. Parker said that the GEC should think about how to break data down by colleges and departments. He also suggested that data should be looked at from the freshman to senior year. Wiemer asked that if the data collection is rotated through the SLOs, could a freshman/senior comparison be done? There was further
discussion of how general education goals should align with the baccalaureate goals and SLOs. There was also discussion on the time line for the work of the task force and if it was reasonable that the final model could be developed by the fall 2014 semester. One of the concerns discussed was operationalizing the new model, specifically for transfer students. Kolb responded that the task force has discussed extensively how any new model will affect transfers. The GEC also noted how the current time line for the task force doesn’t allow for enough time for feedback and getting buy-in from the university community. Thu asked McDonald for her feedback. She said that she really likes the pathways model and the ability to earn a minor was really attractive. It was discussed that anything on the transcript, e.g., minor, credential, could be seen by students as a reward for completing the general education program.

C. Humanities and Arts Catalog Language. No report.

D. Follow-up for courses not yet approved.

1. HIST 381 and HIST 382. No report.

E. Core Competencies Resubmissions

1. Alternatives to MATH 101. No report. They have until June to submit their data.

F. Subcommittee to review PLUS recommendations. The GEC reviewed a draft of guiding principles for the GEC and it was suggested that Kolb could include it in his final report for the task force. There was a brief discussion regarding whether or not the GEC should be able to remove a course from the general education program. There was no resolution on this issue. Minor revisions were made to the document. Gorman made a motion, seconded by Chakraborty, TO APPROVE THE GUIDING PRINCIPLES AS AMENDED. Motion passed unanimously. Klonoski noted that the GEC also has working rules, which could be incorporated into the guiding principles. Further discussion was postponed until Kolb could review and provide feedback on the working rules.


V. New Business. There was no new business.

VI. Adjournment

A motioned was made and seconded TO ADJOURN. The meeting adjourned by acclamation at 2:15 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for September 18, 2014.

Respectfully submitted by Donna Smith, Catalog Editor/Curriculum Coordinator