Voting Members Present: Rodney Duke, Michael Krenn (chair), Tori Little, Susan Lutz, Kelly McBride, Martha McCaughey, Patrick Rardin, Georgia Rhoades, Alexander Schwab, Bruce Stewart, Scott Welch.
Voting Members Absent: Ashton Dorsey, Amy Galloway, Cameron Lippard, Scott Townsend.
Non-Voting Members Present: Patty Dale, Elaine Gray, Kristin Hyle, Mike Mayfield, Sheryl Mohn (scribe), Lynne Waugh

The General Education Council was called to order at 3:00 when a quorum was reached.

The following actions were taken by the Council:

**VOTE 1: Minutes** from January 29, 2016 meeting
- Yes: 8
- No: 0
- Abstain: 2
Minutes approved as written.

The following vote was taken for this course to carry the *Literary Studies* designation, effective Fall 2016:

**VOTE 2**: LLC 3430, Arthurian Legends
- Yes: 11
- No: 0
- Abstain: 0
Course approved.

**VOTE 3**: Memo of Understanding between General Education and Watauga Residential College
A motion was made and seconded to approve the Memo of Understanding as posted. This new MOA covers revisions to the General Education curriculum.
- Yes: 11
- No: 0
- Abstain: 0
Motion carried.

The following items were discussed:

1. Report from ad hoc renewal committee: This committee, formed to review the renewal process and forms from the GEN/FCC point of view, met this week. They are looking at some options, including:
   - tiers of approval (2 yrs/4 yrs) – this would encourage/reward high quality and establish closer monitoring of “poor” or “inadequate” renewal proposals
   - make the renewal process the least burdensome as possible while still insuring quality
   - reminder process to help departments keep up with where they are on the timeline and what’s next
   - Deans are to get cohorts together and let GEC know by April 1st.
   The committee will continue to meet to work on these issues.

2. Next steps in renewal process, specifically themes and designations:
   - need to add a question or revise existing question on narrative form for proposer to indicate whether or not the course carries a designation. If so, how are the designator curricular guidelines being met.
   Theme integration – there is only one question regarding collaboration to address theme/shared outcomes. Possible solutions:
• resurrect theme coordinator annual report – concern that this could get very cumbersome and hard to manage.
• adjust the question
Plan to strongly urge courses within themes to be in the same cohort and submit renewals simultaneously.
Scott Welsh will draft changes to renewal form for discussion and vote at next month’s meeting.

3. WID and Capstone Renewal: There is no FCC for Capstones; WAC committee deals with WID proposals, but it is not an elected FCC. The website states that all courses in the Gen Ed curriculum are approved by an FCC. Georgia Rhoades gave the background on WAC formation in 2008. WAC Committee is always interdisciplinary and made up of WID consultants. The WAC Committee is willing to review Capstone proposals if GEC deems appropriate.
• do we need formal FCC for writing component?
• may need to submit revised proposal to AP&P to establish WID/Capstone FCC with stipulation that WAC Director serve as chair of committee (structure like FYS FCC).
• need a formal structure for Capstones – hope to have settled by end of this academic year.
Plan: Michael Krenn and Georgia Rhoades will work up models of four options:
1-move responsibility of Capstones to WAC Committee
2-formalize FCC for WID and Capstone
3-formalize two FCCs – 1 for WID and 1 for Capstones
4-Divide Capstones out by designators, etc. to current FCCs.
Rodney Duke will write a motion for discussion at next month’s meeting

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 4:45 pm.

Submitted by,
Sheryl M. Mohn (scribe)