The General Education Council met on Friday, January 29, 2010 at 3:00 pm in room 1118 of Anne Belk Hall. Members present were: Dr. Jim Barnes, Dr. Joby Bell, Ms. Carter Hammett-McGarry, Dr. Gabrielle Katz, Dr. Sue Keefe, Dr. Rick Klima, Dr. Paulette Marty, Dr. Mike Mayfield, Ms. Kelly McBride, Dr. Terri Mitchell, Dr. Georgia Rhoades, Dr. Jim Toub, Mr. Peter Rowe, Dr. Elaine Gray, Ms. Kristin Hyle, Ms. Lynne Waugh, Ms. Tina Parlier, Dr. Peter Wachs, Ms. Sheryl Mohn (Scribe). Guests: Dr. Bill Pelto, Dr. Kathy McKinney, Dr. Dewey Garner, Dr. Kathy Schroeder, and Mr. David Huntley.

Members excused were: Dr. Joe Gonzalez, Dr. Tom McLaughlin, Mr. Zach Grier, Dr. Dave Haney.

Dr. Mike Mayfield called the meeting to order at 3:05 pm when a quorum was reached.

Dr. Mayfield then presented an update on enrollment patterns within the General Education Program.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Elaine Gray reminded everyone that the GenEd Assessment Workshop presented by Dr. Barbara Walvoord will be held on February 25-26th. She asked for input from the FCCs as to how this work can be continued after the workshop.

Ms. Kristin Hyle provided an update on the resolution of problems with CurricuNet. The vendor is having an issue with GenEd structure and loading the FCCs in to view proposals. There were more proposals than we were aware of, so not all FCCs had time to meet to review them prior to the January GEC meeting. Those proposals not yet review by the appropriate FCC will not be considered by the GEC.

MINUTES

1. The minutes of the November 20, 2009 General Education Council meeting were approved without changes.
   VOTE 1: YES 13 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0

ROLE OF FCCs IN ASSESSMENT:
Dr. Gray asked for feedback from the Council on what kind of feedback will be helpful for the FCCs to receive from the assessment process. Dr. Gray will work with the FCC chairs to create survey questions to faculty.
ROLE OF FCCs IN SUBSTITUTIONS IN GENER EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS
Ms. Carter Hammett-McGarry distributed a handout describing the process for submitting a substitution petition for General Education Requirements. Ms. Hammett-McGarry explained the circumstances when students have credit hours for a course that don’t meet the criteria for counting as a GenEd component. Ms. Hammett-McGarry, Dr. Mayfield and Ms. Hyle have been spending a lot of time considering and investigating these cases. So, the process has been written down, using FCC guidelines in the course approval process to make determinations for these students. This process keeps the majority of the work in dealing with these on the GenEd administrative staff. Ms. Hammett-McGarry asked for consensus from the Council for this process today, with the plan to have a formal procedure in place by the end of Spring ’10 semester. This process would not override the decision of a department chair. Unanimous consensus was given.

THEME TEAM LEADERS: ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES:
Dr. Mayfield raised the issue of the roles and responsibilities of theme leaders. The Council needs agreement so that it can be clarified on the website and relevant forms developed. A related issue is what the course proposal process is; ex., how many syllabi are required to be submitted with each proposal. Timeline needs to allow for time to get back to departments if there are questions or deficiencies in proposals, so that FCCs have time to reconsider revised proposals and get them to the GEC. This issue will be discussed further at the next meeting.

REPORTS FROM FCCs:
Dr. Mayfield reminded members that if an FCC does not recommend approving a proposal, then, according to parliamentary procedure, a motion must be made from the floor and seconded in order for the Council to consider that proposal.

1. Science Inquiry Perspective:
Music Therapy program is requesting that an exception be granted for Music Therapy majors, allowing BIO 1101 and ES 2000 meet the Science Inquiry requirement. The FCC does not recommend approving this request. Carter Hammett-McGarry made a motion to approve; motion was seconded by Terri Mitchell. Therefore, the proposal was considered by the Council. Dr. Cathy McKinney and Dr. Bill Pelto were present to answer any questions. It was reported that Dr. Paul Gaskill of HLES is supportive of this exception. ES2000 is not a GenEd course and HLES is reportedly not interested in going through the approval process for this course. During discussion, it was pointed out that the primary issue/concern is not for these particular few Music Therapy majors, but the larger impact of setting this precedent.

   VOTE 2:  YES: 2  NO: 10  ABSTAIN: 1

Motion failed. Exception is not approved.
2. **Science Inquiry Perspective:**
   FCC recommends an indefinite continuance of allowing *true transfer* students who have two different science credits to count them as having met the Science Inquiry requirement.
   
   VOTE 3: YES: 12 NO: 0 ABSTAIN: 0
   
   *Recommendation approved.*

3. **Watauga Global Community:**
   The Perspectives Executive Committee recommends approving proposal establishing two exclusive WGC themes: Aesthetic Perspective and Historical/Social Perspective. (See handout). David Huntley was present to answer any questions. These two themes were developed primarily for WGC students, but there will be space for a few non-WGC students. It is hoped that these themes can be listed on the GenEd Checksheet. Effective date: Fall 2010
   
   VOTE 4: YES: 12 NO: 0 ABSTAIN: 0
   
   *Recommendation approved.*

Motion to extend the meeting an additional 15 minutes.

VOTE 5: YES: 12 NO: 0 ABSTAIN: 0

*Motion passed.*

4. **Wellness Literacy:**
   Committee recommends approval of the following proposals, with specific language modified on the syllabi to clarify that students using 2 PE BIP (activity) courses will need to complete the modules.

   **Effective immediately:**
   PE 1545 Selected Topics: Swimming for Fitness
   PE 1546 Selected Topics: Water Aerobics

   **Effective Fall 2010:**
   PE 1709 Water Aerobics
   PE 1712 Swimming for Fitness

   VOTE 6: YES 12 NO 0 ABSTAIN 0

   *Recommendation approved.*

5. **Historical and Social Perspective:**
   *This American Life Theme:*
   Proposal to add SW2020 – American Social Welfare System. Dr. Sue Keefe reported that members of the FCC met with the departmental committee to address GEC’s
concerns about the proposal. Revisions have been made and the FCC is ready to recommend that this proposal be approved.

VOTE 7: YES: 12 NO: 0 ABSTAIN: 0

Recommendation approved.

6. Local to Global Perspective:
   FCC recommends approval of a pilot proposal for a freshman experience (six-hour theme) of two weeks in Costa Rica in August 2010 prior to beginning at ASU. Study will include environmental sustainability and globalization. This would be 3 credit hours. The second part of the experience will be a course here on campus that deals with the same issues locally. This part would be 3 credit hours.

VOTE 8: YES = 12 NO = 0 ABSTAIN = 0

Recommendation approved.

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 pm. Items are the January agenda that were not considered will be moved to the February 2010 agenda.

Submitted by: Sheryl M. Mohn, PHR
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General Education