GENERAL EDUCATION COUNCIL
September 24, 2010
Minutes
The General Education Council met for its first meeting of the 2010-2011 academic year on
Friday, September 24, 2010 at 3:00 pm in room 1118 of Anne Belk Hall. Voting members
present were: Ms. Laura Byrd, Dr. George Ehrhardt, Dr. Joe Gonzalez, Ms. Carter Hammett-
McGarry, Mr. Jackson Lever, Dr. Paulette Marty, Ms. Kelly McBride, Dr. Terri Mitchell, Dr.
Georgia Rhoades, Dr. Marilyn Smith, Ms. Carol Soule’, Dr. John Stephenson, Dr. Ray Williams.
Non-voting members present were: Dr. Susan Davies, Ms. Kristin Hyle, Dr. Mike Mayfield, Dr.
Pete Wachs, Ms. Lynne Waugh, Dr. Jeni Wyatt, and Ms. Sheryl Mohn (Scribe).

Guest: Mr. David Huntley

Members excused: Dr. Phillip Ardoin, Dr. David Orvis, Dr. Laurie Semmes

Dr. Paulette Marty called the meeting to order when a quorum was reached at 3:05 pm.
Introductions were made and new members were welcomed.

NEW BUSINESS:
Approval of April 15, 2010 Minutes:
A motion was made and seconded that the April16, 2010 Minutes be approved with corrections
as noted.

VOTE 1: YES: 12  NO: 0  ABSTAIN: 0
Motion carried.

REPORTS FROM FCCs:
Dr. Marty announced that the agenda item from Quantitative Literacy “GEP MAT 3.3 hours” is
removed from the agenda. The FCC is not bringing it to the Council for a vote.

1. Writing Across the Curriculum:
   WCG 2001, Creative Non-Fiction – WAC Committee is recommending Second Year
   Writing designation for this course. It was noted that this course is only taught in the Fall
   and is currently being taught. Second year writing credit for those currently enrolled in
   the course will be handled on an individual basis.
   VOTE 2: YES: 12  NO: 0  ABSTAIN: 0
   Designation approved for Fall 2011.

2. Writing Across the Curriculum:
   MUS 3611 – WAC Committee is recommending, at the request of the School of Music,
   that the WID designation be removed from this course.
   VOTE 5: YES: 11  NO: 0  ABSTAIN: 0
   Designation removal approved for Fall 2010.
POLICY DISCUSSIONS/VOTES:

Issues with Theme Composition: Ms. Hammett-McGarry led the discussion of this item, referring members to the memorandum included in the packet of materials sent out prior to this meeting. The issues are brought today for discussion only, asking FCC & Perspectives Executive Committee and FCC Chairs to make recommendations for addressing the concerns of imbalances in themes. There are some pressing issues, particularly in Performance of Culture, that need to be addressed this year. Overall issues were discussed; Dr. Marty will call a meeting of the FCC and Designation Chairs to brainstorm solutions.

Limits on Number of Courses in Perspectives Themes: Dr. Marty referred members to the memorandum included in the packet of materials sent out prior to this meeting. Dr. Rhoades made a motion, which was seconded by Ms. Hammett-McGarry, that the Council approve a policy that limits the number of courses allowed in a theme to five. Points raised during discussion were: integration is most critical to success of General Education mission; the more courses within a theme, the less likely integration will take place; encouraging new themes will vitalize integration; new themes will likely look very different from ones originally proposed in order to begin GenEd program, they will be proposed because of passion for theme; more courses in themes maximizes flexibility for students; perhaps other guidelines could be useful for FCCs, rather than a strict limit, etc.

VOTE 3: YES: 3 NO: 8 ABSTAIN: 0

Motion failed.

Faculty Coordinating Committee Structure: Dr. Marty referred members to the memorandum included in the packet of materials sent out prior to this meeting. This item is being brought today for discussion only. Dr. Marty asked members to take this issue to their respective FCCs and get feedback to bring back to GEC prepared to vote at the October meeting. See proposed revisions outlined in the memo – reducing the number of faculty serving on FCCs while maintaining appropriate faculty expertise for the proposal and policy review process.

Recommendation Regarding Requirements for Returning Core Curriculum Students One Course Short of Completing the Core: Ms. Hyle began the discussion of this item, asking members to approve the recommendation stated in the memorandum included in the packet of materials sent out prior to this meeting: “Students returning to Appalachian under the forgiveness policy must graduate under the catalog in force at the time they return.

Students returning to Appalachian after a break in attendance, but not under the forgiveness policy, may re-enter under their original catalog or choose any subsequent catalog for a year in which they were enrolled, as long as that catalog is no more than six years old.
**RECOMMENDATION:** Allow students in the two situations outlined above who are deficient by a single course in Core Curriculum to re-enter Appalachian, complete the one remaining Core Curriculum requirement, and complete the WID and Capstone courses in General Education. This recommendation is in effect until the catalog year policies are resolved in AP&P.”

Dr. Smith made a motion to approve the policy as recommended; motion was seconded by Dr. Rhoades.

**VOTE 4: YES: 10 NO: 0 ABSTAIN: 1**

Motion carried.

**UPDATES:**

Assessment: Ms. Hammett-McGarry reviewed the updates to the website. The monitoring report to SACS is due April 15th, in which we will be required to have a mature assessment plan. The push is to get data submitted so that it can be analyzed and examined against the student learning outcomes. Recommendations of Artifact Reviewers are needed from the FCC chairs. These reviewers will be paid a stipend to review artifacts over the semester break - -review can occur from any computer with internet access.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:40 pm.

Submitted by: Sheryl M. Mohn

Program Associate, General Education