

## **Gen Ed Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Date and Time of Meeting: February 24, 2014 2:30-4:00 PM**

**Members Present:** Pat Cantor, Mary Campbell, Ryanne Carmichael, David Zehr, Jason Swift, Jeremiah Duncan, Jason Cordeira, James Stiles

**Members Absent:** Jurasak Themplala, Heather Janssen, Kristine Levan

### **Approval of Minutes:**

12/9 Minutes approved with minor corrections to be made by Mary.

2/10 Minutes approved with minor changes.

**New Business:** Initial Proposal for Resource Management ES 1110 (SIDI) (M. Turski)

- Results of vote (6 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstaining, 3 absent)

### **Key points from visit with M. Turski:**

- Main reasons for course:
  - Planetary science is being dropped due to staff and scheduling issues
  - Resource management course being moved into core curriculum, thus no longer Gen Ed.
- 60% of class redesigned
- Standards on media literacy emphasized, noting weakness in math skills of students.
- Can be taught by any faculty member in department
- Labs use PBL model. Students assigned to group and given real-world project to analyze, build causal chains. Students see no easy, single answer.
- KWL strategy and other hands-on approaches used.

### **Discussion of Curriculum Committee Actions of February 21:**

- NR 4050 (INCO) – change course title and description
- PE 4805 (WRCO) – change prerequisite
- AC 1010 and 020 (GACO) – change course description
- CN 1010 (GACO) – change course description
- FR 1010 and 1020 (DICO) (GACO) – change course description
- GR 1010 and 1020 (GACO) – change course description
- SP 1010 and 1020 (DICO) (GACO) – change course description
- SP 1110 (DICO) (GACO) – change course description
- CH 2335 (QRCO) – add prerequisite/corequisite

No concerns were noted for above.

## **Proposed revisions to Gen Ed Handbook Appendix E, Process for Approving or Renewing General Education status for a course. (Jason)**

- Document is in process of being edited.
- Do we want upload fields in Moodle? Suggested this would help monitor due dates.
- Discussion of Gen Ed Proposal form – needs some updating with regard to appendix. Form can also reflect basic Directions elements.
- Need for appeals process to be added. What is timeline?
- Challenge of colleagues following simple directions for submissions. Need to monitor/review regardless of how submitted. Can there be some form of accountability given bylaws/policies? Clearer instructions and use of faculty members' resources to problem solve.
- Some confusion over single form for initial and sunset. Go back to separate forms for each? Appeals form could be separate form as well.
- Given different structures at PSU, perhaps note Department Chair or designee (ie: CoBA Dean).
- Committee expressed support for direct submission to Moodle rather than by e-mail to Gen Ed Chair.
- Tech alternatives to Assignment function on Moodle discussed.
- **Need to investigate Moodle Options further. Volunteer needed. Justin should be invited to attend to show/share options for committee.**
- **E-signature piece needs clarification**
- **Appeals form feedback needed**
- **Process page, plus form needs to be put on website.**
- Timeline for submission: 2 weeks before meeting. Initial submissions should plan on attending meeting to discuss course.

## **Discussion: “What to Include on a Gen Ed Syllabus” Document (Jim and David)**

- Paragraph statement on Gen Ed should be included
- Standard statement about Gen Ed for the course. Statement would be standard across all Directions/Connections courses.
- Benefits of key skills to employers noted as potential
- Reflective component seen as important. Possibility of two-part description:
  - General Description cut and pasted from Handbook
  - Reflection on how course meets Gen Ed meets and assesses goals
- Several different examples needed to clarify.

## **Assessment of General Education**

- Learning outcomes for Scientific Inquiry Directions courses discussed. Three general categories emerged.
  - Methodology
  - Data -- interpretation
  - Relevancy, real-world problem solving.

- All to write 2 objectives for each of the 3 remaining Directions for next time.

Agenda for **next meeting: Monday, March 10, 2:30-4:00**

- Review Objectives posted to Moodle.
- One new initial course proposal anticipated.

**Remaining Meetings:**

Monday, March 10

Monday, March 24

Monday, April 14

Monday, April 28

Monday, May 12