

## General Education Committee

March 23, 2009 – HUB 123

### MINUTES

Present: Lourdes Aviles, Samuel D. Brickley II, Mary E. Campbell (consultant, non-voting), D. Benjamin Dearth (student, voting), Corey J. DeGroot (student, voting), John C. Krueckeberg, Robert S. Miller, Evelyn M. Stiller (Chair), Eun-ho Yeo (new faculty, non-voting), David Zehr [eight voting members]

Absent: Deborah H. John

Vacant: Dean of the Academic Experience

Guest: Daniel Moore

*Recorded in the order in which the agenda item was discussed.* Evelyn Stiller called the meeting to order at 2:30 pm.

III. Dan Moore on assessing general education. Assessing courses is a start. Ask different series of questions to look at the program. Need to look at student learning. Break down the assessment into the three components of the program: First Year Experience; Directions; Connections. How would you gather information on this objective? Some information is in various department reviews, some in NESSE. Partly the departments participating in General Education will do this, not the General Education Committee, with some help from the administration. Assess how individuals gain knowledge, skills, and values through their education; what a generally educated person would be. See the General Education document. Are they getting the skills, the knowledge, the values? Define good measurable objectives. Start with those that are clearer. Ongoing process.

Focus groups. Have all instructors of CTDI, for example, courses discuss what works, what doesn't. Starting point. If we were to have a focus group, can we look to the administration for support for refreshments, etc.? Portfolio group. How would we marry a portfolio system to assessment? Certain key points on the document will be addressed by CLA. Need 19 more seniors to take the CLA this semester. David will share results with the Committee and the faculty.

Scott Mantie needs direction from the Committee. Problem in past discussions: defining what we needed to measure. Assessment audit versus focus group. Dan prefers to use focus group. What role would this tool play? Some programs currently use a portfolio, e.g. teacher certification program for NCATE, usually use for accreditation (to get accredited or maintain accreditation). Portfolio is licensed and costs a fee. It shows progress; it can also be a presentation tool, to showcase. Students have to pay an annual fee to the portfolio company. Very time consuming to review at the same time. The Business Department put it in their capstone course. Can set up portfolio with various templates. The Education Department has put specific assignments in core courses to cover some NCATE issues. Can we standardize the use of a portfolio; Education Department versus Health and Human Performance Department?

IV. Discuss need for institutional research information. The Steering Committee will discuss the need for campus wide institutional research at its next meeting. Needs, for example: number of seniors who need x component of General Education. Fact Book: 2005 was the last version posted. Enrollments: could see trends; how many juniors there are when planning course sections. Hard to get data from Institutional Research.

## General Education Committee

### V. Committee Reports.

- a. Curriculum Committee. Did not meet in March due to Spring Break.
- b. Steering Committee. See previous topic.

### I. Approve minutes from March 9<sup>th</sup>. Approved as presented.

### II. Early Review Proposals approved [sunset date becomes 5/2013]:

- a. AC 1010 Fundamentals of Arabic I as Global Awareness Connection.
- b. CN 1010 Fundamentals of Chinese I as global Awareness Connection.

### VI. Next meeting April 13<sup>th</sup>.

The General Education Committee meets on the second and fourth Mondays of the month from 2:30 to 3:30 pm in HUB 123. The next meeting of the Committee will be **April 13<sup>th</sup>**.

The Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 3:18 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary E. Campbell, Scribe  
Director of Curriculum Support

*These minutes were approved April 13, 2009.*