

**General Education Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015**  
**2:30 p.m. HUB 109**

**Members Present:** Pat Cantor, Holly Oliver, Jim Stiles, Jason Swift, Mike Davidson , David Zehr (ex officio), Mary Campbell (consultant; non-voting), Clarissa Uttley (non-voting),

**Members Absent:** Joseph Rino (non-voting), Wendy Palmquist, Rowan Allen (student rep)

**Approval of Minutes:**

Nov. 9th-approved as presented;

Curriculum Committee Actions Affecting General Education:

There were no objections to continuing the General Education status for:

- AC 1010
- CN 1010
- ER 4250
- FR 1010
- FR 1020
- GR 1010
- GR 1020
- LA 1030
- LA 1040
- MA 2490
- SP 1010
- SP 1020

Connections Sunset Renewals due April 4<sup>th</sup>; new chair & Mary Campbell will send department chairs an updated list sometime in January

Deadline for new course proposals for the 2016-2017 Catalog is March 2, 2016 Faculty meeting; the deadline for General Education is Feb. 22, 2016

**Sunset Renewal Proposals: Review/Discussion & Vote-**

- DNDI 2XXX Athleticism in the Performing Arts (CTDI); **Vote: 6-favor 0-opposed; APPROVED**
  - Representing the Department: Robin Marcotte & Amanda Whitworth;
  - Handout highlighting Gen Ed Skills was presented;
  - Students will use a new communication form-physical language- to create something unknown; tolerance for ambiguity; emotional & physical risk taking;
  - David Zehr: Society's Impact Assignment-having students identify a prejudice may connote negativity; Robin's response-the project is based on a question that may evolve from a misunderstanding or a

- conundrum; if there isn't any drama/tension, it's hard to create something dramatic; instructor will consider new language for Society's Impact Assignment;
    - Going to Curriculum Committee on Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>;
    - Special Topics course offering in the spring 2016; at full capacity
  - SIDI 2200 Exploring Social Life (SSDI); was approved for renewal; **Vote: 6-favor 0-opposed; APPROVED**
    - Representing the Department: Robert Heiner
    - Question arose-how does this course differ from *Foundations of Sociology?*;
    - Handout was presented highlighting the key difference as *Foundations v. Exploration*;
    - It was noted that the required text may cause some confusion; Robert acknowledged and the department/instructor(s) will investigate a different text
  - FR 2030 Intermediate French I (DICO, GACO) was approved for renewal; **Vote: 6-favor 0-opposed; APPROVED**
    - Representing the Department: Katherine Harrington;
    - Though the representative felt the DICO/GACO requirements were being met, it was noted that the DICO/GACO requirements need to be more explicit; consultation with the course instructor will focus on editing the syllabus including the objectives, assignment descriptions, and assessments
  - CS 4520 CyberEthics (DICO, INO, WRCO); **withdrew their renewal proposal**

#### Discussion Items:

- **ES&P Department:**-discussions focused on ESDI 2500 *Environment Science* & ESDI 2610 *Earth Systems Science: The Hazardous Earth*
- ESDI 2610 *Earth Systems Science* already had a previous one year extension that expired this Dec.; nothing was submitted for the current deadline, chair was notified and informed that a request for appeal needed to be sent to David Zehr (see policy adopted March 9, 2009), this was not done
  - **The DI designation is denied and will be removed in the 2016-2017 Academic Catalog**
  - Course numbers will change; ESDI 2610 → ES XXXX
  - Discussion re: if a student previously enrolled failed and needed to retake-this will be the responsibility of the department to make accommodations; recommendation was made for the department to inform students in this situation ASAP so they may try and take it next semester (the last Gen Ed offering)
  - Suggestion was made that the department no longer offer the course to avoid future confusion

- Pat will explain the committee's decision and tell the chair to contact David Zehr with any further questions
- Learning Outcomes Pilot Project
  - Pilot instructors will share impact/results once course grades are submitted
  - Kathy LeBlanc has surveyed her students and has data that can be used
  - David Zehr will have data that can be used
  - Data and interpretation (Student Achievement on Learning Outcomes) are needed for NEASC & Julie Bernier wants data to share with Board of Trustees;
  - Clarissa will send Pat the template to be completed by participants and then Pat will send an Email request to participants asking them to submit requested data/comments after final grades, but before the first week of Jan.
  - Do we want more participants in the spring 16? Maybe resend the initial invite in January
- Changes in membership for Spring 2016
  - **Jim's last meeting; after 5 years-thank you for your service!**; Joey Rino-will take Jim's place as a voting member
  - Pat will be on sabbatical; Elizabeth Johnson-faculty observer will take Pat's place as as a voting member
  - Still working on some consistency with student body representation
- Selection of Chair for Spring 2016
  - Pat will approach Wendy Palmquist

**Adjourned @ 3:50 p.m.**  
**Next Meeting: Monday, Feb. 8, 2015 2:30-4:00**