GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Monday, September 26, 2016

2:30-4:00, HUB 109

Approved Minutes

Members Present: Wendy Palmquist, Holly Oliver, Joseph Rino, Michael Davidson, Sandra McBournie, Michelle Fistek, Dean Gail Mears, Mary Campbell (non-voting), Clarissa Uttley (non-voting), & Annmarie Conlon (faculty observer)

Members Absent: Student Rep

Approval of Minutes:

• Sept. 12, 2016-approved

Sunset Renewal and New Course Proposals:

• IS 2222 (TECO) was approved
  o 4 in favor
  o 3 no vote
• Sunset Renewal—there will be three from SS Education to review for the next meeting
• Should be receiving some ESP proposals in the near future

Update on Curriculum Committee

• Elected Hilary Swank as Chair
• Approved IS 2222 with course number change IS 2220 to reflect Gen Ed status
• Representatives from Environmental Society & Policy (ESP) came with many new course and program change proposals; because of the volume of information, they will be coming back to the committee with further clarification.

First Year Experience/FYS Working Group

• Guides will serve as liaisons between the two working groups: Cathy LeBlanc, Annette Holba, Nick Sevegny, & Elliot Gruner;
• Important to keep the two working groups working side by side, not separately
• Status of FYS Coordinating Council (FYS Coordinator & rep from Gen Ed Committee)? Are these one and the same? Where do future recommendations go?
• Important to maintain transparency
• President Birx shared vision for FYS including a possible capstone experience
• Introduction to interdisciplinary thinking
• Let’s not associate a FYS with a specific cluster
• Student interest should drive choices, not available times
• “we” understand the connections, but we have to help “students” see the connections
• Can we do away with “hard scheduling”?
• Students need to tell their own educational story and have choice during the first semester
• Many current processes are focused on what works for us and not them
• Next meeting’s focus: goals, outcomes, and considerations
• Need to work on timetable: FYS & Directions

Gen Ed/Cluster Process Working Group

• Will meet after Gen Ed today
• Work on Phase I Model of Gen Ed that is engaging and sensible
• Work on timeline: FYS & Directions

Other?

Misc. Info needed:

• Future plans for Orientation
• Future plans for first year Scheduling
• Future plans for 3 v. 4 credits
• Is the FYS Working Group for all intents and purposes the FYS Council?

NEASC interim report in January—don’t forget! Critical to keep assessment in mind

Adjourned at 3:36 p.m.

Next meeting: October 24, 2016!