

Grand Valley State University
General Education Committee Meeting

167 Lake Ontario Hall
Minutes of 11/30/2015

PRESENT: Kirk Anderson, Chair; Hsiao-Ping Chen; Emily Frigo; Paola Leon; Kimberly McKee; Melba Velez Ortiz; Linda Pickett; Eric Ramsson; Jeremy Robinson; Susan Strouse; Patrick Thorpe; Jeremy Turnbull; David Vessey

ALSO PRESENT: C. “Griff” Griffin, Director, General Education; Jennifer Cathey, General Education Office Coordinator

NOT PRESENT: Gabriele Gottlieb; Haiying Kong; LeShell Palmer; Huihui Qi; Paul Sicilian*

*Participating via email despite conflict with meetings

Agenda Items	Discussion	Action Taken
Approval of current Agenda	No discussion.	Approved per consensus
Approval of 11/16/2015 Minutes	No discussion.	Approved per consensus
Revised CAPS for HST courses (new goal: information literacy)	Six History courses (HST 101, 102, 103, 203, 207, 208) asked to change one of their skills goals to Information Literacy in place of Problem Solving. Members agreed that the revised CAPs look good. Member asked about objective 4, completing a research project. Director stated that it is likely an individual project. Chair stated that the CAPs indicated a written presentation.	S. Strouse moved to approve all six CAPs. L. Pickett 2 nd . Motion carries 12-0
Log 9162: Course Change – PLS 211, International Relations [new to GEC, submitted 11/16/2015] Double dipper: To count for Foundations - Social and Behavioral Sciences, and to count for Cultures	Members would like to see Group Project as a method of evaluation in the SoR. Member stated that she was happy to see their description of collaboration but that it only lists Group presentation under methods of evaluation and no peer evaluations. Member asked if mentioning a specific textbook under content goal 1 for SBS is advisable. Member stated that they did say “for example” and not that it was the definitive textbook. Double dipper courses can have up to 4 skills goals and as few as 2. This course has CCT as a skill goal for both WP and SBS. The author filled out both CCT sections unique to the category. For problem solving, the proposer did not mention anything about students writing a problem statement. Members agree to ask for an amendment with some minor changes: add group project to the SoR, add self/peer evaluation to the Gen Ed form and SoR, and address the first objective (problem statement) of problem solving in the Gen Ed form.	L. Pickett moved to approve with minor amendment. J. Robinson 2 nd . Motion carries 12-0. Amendment to be returned to Chair.

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<p>– World Perspectives. Skills are CCT, PS and Collaboration.</p>		
<p>Rubric revision</p>	<p>Integration – Changed the wording of the objectives. Director stated that the objectives need to be an action of the student and be able to be measured. Member stated that “more than one field of study” needs to be added back into the first objective. Director told members to underline important words in the rubric if it helps distinguish between two statements. Member stated the group moved objectives to proficient column to make them explicit. Chair stated that the objectives need to be able to stand alone without the rest of the rubric as they appear in the handbook and in other communications alone. Member stated that the objective is essentially the proficiency since that is the goal.</p> <p>Ethical Reasoning – Member explained the make-up of the rubric. It has the definition, objectives, and then proficient, progressing, and baseline have specific behaviors/evidence to meet the objectives. We should use different language in the proficient column, since this is not the same thing as the objective; rather, it is a description of what a proficient student will do to meet that objective. Members agreed that this is the model they would like to follow for set-up of all rubrics. Member asked if the rationale was going to be removed from the definition as that was what was decided upon before. If removed, it might force the reader to look at the rubric.</p> <p>Written Communication – Kept the proficient definition the same and then used “such” for the other two categories instead of rewriting the same explanation. It makes the reader go back and read proficient. Members decided to add one word to the objectives that helps define it. It will make it easier to interpret and find things in the rubric.</p> <p>Oral Communication – Group took out the last objective regarding rehearsal of the presentation. How does an instructor know if the student rehearsed? Group added the rehearsal portion to objective three. Member stated that the rehearsal is easy to assess as you can tell if someone rehearsed, usually because they meet the time limit. Member asked if it is necessary to rehearse. Another member stated that we make students revise written communication and there is a need for rehearsal in oral communication. That is how one improves their skill of oral communication. Member proposed giving some best practice items for how to teach the objectives and projects to</p>	<p>Members agreed to keep the objective and proficient columns separate and different. Add a one keyword title for each objective. Groups will take another look at their assigned rubrics in light of the ER and WC rubrics.</p>

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	<p>have students complete. Members agree to lose the word informal but keep formal regarding the oral presentations. Also agreed to restore the objective about evidence of rehearsal.</p> <p>The rest of the groups agreed that they have a better understanding of how they should set up their rubrics. Member asked to have a copy of the Written Communication and Ethical Reasoning rubrics to use as guides.</p>	
Chair's Report	We will continue with rubrics next week. Will have a draft of the mid-year report. Christine Rener from FTLC will be here next week to discuss the skills goals and large class sizes.	
Director's Report	More courses coming through the curriculum process. We want to send someone to the conference in Montreal. We want to send someone who will remain on the committee next year. We are working on increasing the number of seats in Issues courses and getting more courses added to Issues.	
Adjournment		4:28pm