

Grand Valley State University
General Education Committee Meeting

303C DeVos
 Minutes of 4/4/2016

PRESENT: Kirk Anderson, Chair; Emily Frigo; Gabriele Gottlieb; Haiying Kong; Kimberly McKee; Melba Velez Ortiz; LeShell Palmer; Linda Pickett; Huihui Qi; Eric Ramsson; Paul Sicilian; Susan Strouse; Patrick Thorpe; David Vessey

ALSO PRESENT: Jennifer Cathey, General Education Office Coordinator

NOT PRESENT: Hsiao-Ping Chen; C. "Griff" Griffin, Director, General Education; Paola Leon; Jeremy Robinson*; Jeremy Turnbull

*Participating via email despite conflict with meetings

| Agenda Items | Discussion | Action Taken |
|---|--|--|
| Approval of current Agenda | No discussion. | Approved per consensus |
| Approval of 3/28/2016 Minutes | No discussion. | Approved per consensus |
| Rubric Revision: CCT | Multiple groups reviewed this rubric. A fourth sub objective was added to make the rubric more complete and cover both Critical and Creative Thinking. Some members felt that Critical and Creative Thinking should be split into two separate goals. Member mentioned that most departments indicate they teach critical thinking as part of their core content and maybe we should leave it to them and do away with critical thinking and just keep creative thinking. Members reviewed the rubric as a group and made the necessary changes to wording. The rubric will be sent to the Writing Center and University Assessment Committee for review. | |
| Curriculum items for consideration --Log 9477: Honors College Program Change | Chair explained that this agenda item is in response to an email message from the UCC chair. This program change request (PCR) did not come to GEC via Sail, it is currently in the hands of UCC – we were asked via email to have a look before UCC acts on it. Members asked why we were not part of this review process in the beginning. Chair stated that we need to have a say in Honors courses because if a student drops out of Honors they need to know what GE credit they will get for their Honors courses. More importantly, Gen Ed credit for Honors students is mapped in real time for students in MyPath. Member indicated concerns about US Diversity and that we need to be sure Honors knows they must be teaching racial/ethnic diversity in the US. Member asked if a student doesn't take HNR 312 then will they not get a US Diversity course or will they get it somewhere else? Members asked why Honors doesn't always go through the curriculum process the same as | GEC chair will communicate with UCC chair and Honors College director. |

| Agenda Items | Discussion | Action Taken |
|---|---|--|
| <p>--Log 9378: Course change – PHI 306, Wisdom of the East: Asian Philosophy [new to GEC, submitted 3/15/2016] To count for Cultures: World Perspectives. Skills are CCT and OC.</p> | <p>everyone else. HNR 311, 312, and 313 were all approved as Issues courses in 2012-2013 when we converted Themes to Issues. Honors is not trying to change the category but members think they should have matching skills goals. Committee agreed to let the PCR go on to UCC, but resolved to work with Honors starting in fall to get a better handle on how their curriculum matches up with Gen Ed. In the short term, the GEC chair will ask Honors to state which skills goals correspond with the HNR 311, 312, and 313 courses.</p> <p>PHI 306 Member stated that under topics they shouldn't list discussions as optional because Oral Communications is a goal so it should be required. They also should not say "may include" to the first two topics listed as they are required to teach the content of the course. In Oral Communication, how will the instructor teach evidence of rehearsal as the proposer only stated that students would be given class time to practice. Member stated that it was probably done that way so feedback could be given on their rehearsal. Proposal does state peer reviews will be done.</p> <p>Amendment: SoR regarding optional topics that should not be optional.</p> | <p>M. Velez Ortiz moved to ask for amendment. P. Thorpe 2nd. Motion carries 11-0. Amended proposal to be returned to chair.</p> |
| <p>--Log 9334: New course – ARA/MES 330, Aladdin on Trial: Arab Identity in Literature & Culture [new to GEC, submitted 3/22/2016] To count for Issues: Identity.</p> | <p>ARA/MES 330 Member was confused on the title and finds it potentially offensive. The CCC called attention to the title but it was not addressed. There is no explanation for teaching other than for teamwork. Member stated that the explanation for Problem Solving objective 2 is very vague. SoR methods of evaluation lists oral presentations and research paper without explicitly identifying them as outcomes of the group project. Member stated that we should make mention of the committees concern for the title and how it is perceived.</p> <p>Amendment: Identify methods of evaluation in SoR as either group or individual. Ask for a better explanation of the instructor's role for teaching all three skills goals. Explain/give an example for objective 2 under Problem Solving. Chair will email UCC about concern with title just to ensure it isn't overlooked.</p> | <p>M. Velez Ortiz moved to ask for amendment. P. Thorpe 2nd. Motion carries 11-0. Amended proposal to be returned to the GEC.</p> |

| Agenda Items | Discussion | Action Taken |
|---------------------------|--|--------------|
| CARs | Tabled. | |
| End of Year Report | Received a few comments from the committee and answers to some of the questions. Please notify chair if you have any comments. The report is due Friday 4/8. | |
| Chair's Report | Thank you to the following members whose terms are expiring after the winter semester: Emily Frigo, LeShell Palmer, Paola Leon, Hasio-Ping Chen, and Paul Sicilian. Thanks for all your service to the GE Committee! We will wrap up the CARs over the final two meetings. We hope to hear back from the University Assessment Committee about any revisions to the rubrics. | |
| Director's Report | None. | |
| Adjournment | | 4:29pm |