

General Education Council

Meeting Minutes

May 7, 2010

Allie Young 31

The General Education Council met at 2:00 p.m. May 7, 2010, in Room 31 Allie Young. Members present were Clarendia Phillips, Barbara Dehner, Yvonne Baldwin, Timothy Hare, Carol Wymer, Charles Patrick, Cathy Thomas, Beverly McCormick, Rebecca Katz, Dayna Seelig. Absent: Glen Colburn, Robert Boram, Elsie Pritchard, Cyndi Gibbs, Edna Schack, Kerry Murphy

1. Minutes of April 28 meeting were approved as presented.
2. **Old Business:**
 - a. The issue of hiring a General Education Director, Developmental Education Coordinator (who reports to the GE Director), and an Assessment Coordinator were discussed. Yvonne Baldwin expressed her frustration that although her office had completed the required Job Descriptions and Job Analysis Questionnaires for the first two positions by the April 1 deadline as required, the positions are still not posted. Dayna Seelig told her last week HR was still “entering” the job descriptions. Yvonne discovered while dealing with another matter that the forms are dated in HR May 5. She expressed concern that over a month has elapsed with no action. Dayna arrived at the meeting as this was being discussed. She stated that she had signed off on the documents and forwarded them to HR. Whatever the delay, the result is that neither position can be announced prior to the end of the semester; hence most faculty will not be aware of the positions unless they read the minutes or hear it from someone else. She stated that she will chair the search for the GE Director. When asked, she stated that she would see that the GEC has representation on the committee. She expressed her opinion that the regional campuses need to be involved in this process. She said she expected the search for the GE Director to close on June 1 and the DE Coordinator on June 15. Dates for the Assessment Coordinator have not been set.
 - b. The issue of the new Data Strategies initiative was raised. Members of the GEC expressed their concern to Dayna regarding the delay in relating this information and their unhappiness with instructions to the Faculty Senate Executive Council and Department Chairs not to discuss this initiative with faculty. Others expressed their concern that the promised email was still not delivered and it is Friday at 3 p.m. on the last day of classes.
 - c. Members of the GEC also expressed their concern about confusing and conflicting information from the 128 to 120 document on the issue of Exchange Courses and Capstones. Dayna said the curriculum committees had copies of the courses. Although this may have been helpful to the curriculum committees, it did nothing for the GEC. Dayna said she would have someone email a list of the exchanges

approved for the 2010/2011 transition year. Yvonne related her frustration with the wording of the document and with information provided by Dayna to chairs and faculty that gives the impression that programs may choose a "Gen Ed capstone." There is no such thing in either the previous GE or the framework for the new. The expectation is that programs will propose new capstones that exist in the discipline, are taught by the discipline, and assessed by the discipline. The requirement for GE is that they assess "value added" and integration of GE into the major. **It was agreed that Yvonne will create an update on the topic for the chairs and send it out via email.**

- d. Carol Wymer raised the issue of assessment in Exchange Courses and asked the council to clarify the expectation. **The expectation is that Exchange Courses will collect assessment data on the required SLOs for the course being exchanged.**
 - e. Since the Assessment Coordinator position will take longer than expected, the GEC needs to re-examine its decision to let this person and the GE Director formulate the plan for the 2010/2011 year. It was agreed that members will examine in more detail the assessment plan draft submitted by Yvonne prior to the April 28 meeting.
3. Next Meeting: Wednesday May 12 from 2 to 4 in AY 31.