

Minutes

General Education Council

January 23, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT: DORA AHMADI, KARLA ALEMAN, CHRISTINE EMRICH, CYNDI GIBBS, WILSON GONZALEZ-ESPADA, MARK GRAVES, TIMOTHY HARE, NILESH JOSHI, BEV MCCORMICK, KERRY MURPHY, MARGIE TOMSIC, CLARENDA PHILLIPS, TOM WILLIAMS

- I. NOVEMBER 25, 2014 MINUTES FOR VOTE
MARK GRAVES MADE A **MOTION** TO APPROVE. GEC VOTED AND **MOTION CARRIED.**

- II. REPORTS
 - a. FYS (TIMOTHY HARE)
 - IT IS TIME AGAIN TO CONTACT INSTRUCTORS ABOUT OFFERING (FALL 2015) SECTIONS. DEPARTMENT CHAIRS AND DEANS WILL ALSO BE CONTACTED.
 - THE FYS COMMITTEE WILL BE FOCUSING ON THREE TASKS:
 1. SUPPORT TO INSTRUCTORS FOR STUDENT SUCCESS MATERIALS INCLUDING AN OPTIONAL TEXT FOR INSTRUCTORS THAT PROVIDE READY-MADE TOOLS FOR TEACHING STUDENT SUCCESS SKILLS. THE TEXT THAT IS BEING CONSIDERED IS "BECOMING A MASTER STUDENT". WE WILL ALSO BE PROVIDING ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS WHO CAN COME TO THE CLASSROOM AND SPEAK ON VARIOUS OTHER STUDENT SUCCESS TOPICS.
 2. REVISION OF THE COMMON READING IS BEING REVIEWED.
 3. QEP IS SUPPOSED TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN FALL 2015. WE ARE WAITING ON THE FALL 2014 PILOT DATA TO DETERMINE HOW WELL THE PILOT WENT. THERE IS ANOTHER PILOT HAPPENING THIS SEMESTER. I (TIMOTHY) HAVE BEEN WORKING WITH THE QEP TEAM TO MINIMIZE IMPACT ON THE FYS INSTRUCTORS WORKLOAD. WE ARE TRYING TO SUPPORT THEM IN THE KINDS OF THINGS THEY ARE ALREADY DOING, RATHER THAN ADDING TO THE WORKLOAD.

QUESTION: WHO WOULD SOMEONE CONTACT IF THEY WANT TO DEVELOP A NEW FYS SECTION?

TIMOTHY HARE WOULD BE THE CONTACT PERSON.

COMMENT: THERE IS THE NEED FOR FYS COURSES TO BE TREATED THE SAME IN ALL DEPARTMENTS WITH REGARDS TO HOW FACULTY WORK LOAD IS COUNTED.

THE COLLEGE DEAN CONTROLS HOW THIS IS ADMINISTERED IN THEIR RESPECTIVE AREAS; AND CURRENTLY, THERE IS DIFFERING OPINIONS AMONG THE DEANS ABOUT THE BEST PROCESS.

- III. REGISTRAR
NO REPORT

QUESTION: HAS THE GENERAL EDUCATION COURSE SUBSTITUTION PROCESS CHANGED?

THERE HAS NOT BEEN A CHANGE TO THE PROCESS. IT IS ELECTRONICALLY SUBMITTED TO THE REGISTRAR'S OFFICE. IF SOMEONE HAS A QUESTION REGARDING THE PROCESS, PLEASE CONTACT JOEY BRYANT IN THE REGISTRAR'S OFFICE.

IV. COMMON MEASURES PILOT

- a. THE FACULTY WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE COMMON MEASURES PILOT ARE USING THE SAME DATA SUBMISSION FORMS AS THOSE WHO DID NOT USE COMMON MEASURES. TOM WILLIAMS STATED THAT THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT FACULTY WERE SENT FREQUENT REMINDERS TO USE THE COMMON MEASURES. THE PROCESS SEEMED PRETTY EASY. THEY ARE GOING TO CONDUCT A SATISFACTION SURVEY WITH THE FACULTY TO SEE HOW THEY FELT IT WENT. TOM HAD NOT HEARD NEGATIVE COMMENTS ABOUT IT.
- b. THERE HAVE BEEN SEVERAL QUESTIONS LATE IN THE SEMESTER REGARDING WHICH SLO'S ARE TO BE USED. HOW CAN WE BETTER COMMUNICATE THAT INFORMATION SO THAT FACULTY CAN BEGIN COLLECTING DATA FOR THE APPROPRIATE SLO'S AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SEMESTER?
 - IN THE PAST, THERE WAS THE ABILITY TO ASSESS PARTICULAR SLO'S EACH SEMESTER. WITH THE REDUCTION TO THREE SLO'S WE NOW ASSESS ALL THREE EACH SEMESTER. IT WAS FELT THAT SENDING A NOTICE THAT ALL THREE SLO'S ARE TO BE ASSESSED EVERY SEMESTER WOULD HELP.
 - MARGIE TOMSIC STATED THAT ONE OF HER GOALS IS TO DEVELOP AN ASSESSMENT WEB PAGE SO THAT PERTINENT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION WOULD BE READILY AVAILABLE.
- c. AT SOME POINT, WE DO HAVE TO MAKE A DECISION ON COMMON MEASURES AS TO WHETHER WE ARE GOING FORWARD WITH THEM OR NOT.
 - MARGIE HAS NOT HAD ENOUGH TIME TO EXAMINE WHAT WE HAVE DONE.
 - MARK GRAVES FELT THAT WE NEED TO MAKE A DECISION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AS TO WHETHER WE ARE GOING FORWARD. WE HAVE SOME THINGS THAT WOULD HAVE TO BE ADJUSTED FOR FALL, SO WE WOULD NEED TO TAKE ACTION ON THOSE SOON. WE NEED TO COME UP WITH A TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION. IT SEEMS THAT THE CORE COURSES MIGHT BE NEXT ON THE LIST.
 - TIM HARE SUGGESTED THAT WE NEED GUIDANCE ON HOW IMPORTANT THE COMMON MEASURES ARE AND HOW QUICKLY THEY WOULD NEED TO BE IMPLEMENTED. HE SUGGESTED THAT PERHAPS IT WOULD BE BETTER TO HOLD OFF UNLESS DATA IS NOT APPROPRIATE FOR ASSESSMENT AND REPORTS TO SACS.
 - CLARENDA STARTED THAT PERHAPS A COMPROMISE MAY BE TO FOCUS ON THE CORE. COMMON MEASURES WERE DEVELOPED TO IMPROVE STUDENT LEARNING; TAKING THE ASSESSMENT DATA AND THEN MAKING IMPROVEMENTS TO GENERAL EDUCATION SO THAT STUDENTS ARE ACTUALLY LEARNING WHAT WE BELIEVE THEY SHOULD BE LEARNING.

V. FALL 2014 DATA SUBMISSION DEADLINE – JANUARY 20, 2015

- a. JANUARY 20, 2015 WAS THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION. PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD TO ANYONE WHO MAY NOT HAVE TURNED IN THEIR DATA.

VI. MARGIE TOMSIC GENERAL DISCUSSION

QUESTION: WILL YOU BE TAKING OVER WEAVE?

YES. WE PLAN ON DEVELOPING SOME TRAINING WORKSHOPS.

COMMENT: THE ONLY PLACE ASSESSMENT DATA FOR GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES IS KEPT IS IN WEAVE.

COMMENT: IT WOULD BE GOOD TO HAVE COMMON GOALS FOR WEAVE. IT WOULD BE NICE TO SHARE GOOD MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES SO THAT WE COULD USE THEM AS EXAMPLES.

VII. NEXT MEETING:

- a. THE NEXT MEETING IS FEBRUARY 6, 2015; 11:30 – 12:30; AY 31.