

General Education & Diversity Committee
September 10, 2010
Approved Minutes

Present: Steven Gilbert, Julie Kerr-Berry, Patricia Hoffman Jose Javier Lopez-Jimenez, Marge Murray-Davis, Buddhadev Roychoudhury, Daniel Toma

Also present for Sub meet: John Knox, Maria-Claudia Tomany

The meeting started at 10:06 AM.

1. Decisions on volunteering for the current year:

- a. Secretary - Bud Roychoudhury
- b. GECCIG coordinator for GE cat. 9 – Lopez-Jimenez to consider volunteering. To be decided in the next meeting.
- c. GECCIG coordinator for GE cat. 10 – Dan Toma
- d. CDC coordination – Julie Kerr-Berry.

2. Gen Ed. Assessment:

G.E. committee has not been involved in this area. Tomany suggested that Lynn Akey be included as an ex-officio member. The committee accepted this suggestion. Patricia Hoffman agreed to coordinate on behalf of the G.E. committee.

3. A request for course substitution (0771) has been received. This will be taken up in the next week.

4. Dan Cronn-Mills of Communication Studies will attend the meeting next week.

5. Materials related to course approval and substitutions are ‘confidential’ and, therefore, should be shredded after use.

General Education & Diversity Sub-Meet & Confer Notes September 10, 2010

1. Tomany raised the issue of problems related to Gen Ed Assessment.

The current GECCIG process lays down the plan for the approved courses but assessment responsibilities of implementation of these courses are not clearly defined. HLC had issues with that for our accreditation. Should the department do this as a part of self-assessment (thereby folding it in the program review process) or should there be a cross-disciplinary team to oversee the same? There should also be due considerations for any possible conflict of interests in self-assessment or expertise of and incentives for such external team members. Without addressing these issues and the political implications, any reform of Gen. Ed. will be limited in success. Any assessment needs to be outcome based. Syllabi of courses may also need to be reviewed after a predetermined time interval.

Two years ago Chris Corley produced a position paper addressing the problems of Gen Ed Assessment. In past Brian Martenson also raised the issue of statistical sampling of courses for validity.

Review cycle by research group for Gen Ed cat. 9 & 10 should be finished this year and cat. 11 & 12 in 2011-12. By May of the respective year, Academic Affairs should get the feed-back, if any.

We need to involve the stakeholders in this conversation related to Gen. Ed; especially if there is a possibility of losing Gen Ed status. Each person on the Gen Ed committee should go back to their colleges and meet with the **College Curriculum committee** to get this informally on their radar screen and possibly come up with one or two ideas of how we could assess the Gen Ed outcomes.

2. The problem of the low number of Gold courses should also be revisited.

The meeting ended at 10:59AM.

Respectfully submitted by Bud Roychoudhury