Minutes
General Education Council
Friday, January 29, 2011

Attendance:
Maurianne Adams, Philippe Baillargeon, Stephanie Chapko, John Cunningham, Alexandrina Deschamps, Isabel Espinal, Ginger Etinde, David Fleming, Steve Gencarella, Judy Goodenough, Patricia Gubitosi, Claire Hamilton, Ann Herrington, Sarah Jenness, John Lenzi, Pamela Marsh-Williams, Dori McCracken, Matt Ouelette, Amilicar Shabazz, Razvan Sibii, Martha Stassen

Minutes:
The minutes of December 17, 2010 were PASSED by the Council.

UWW 394 Addendum:
The Council agreed to have Maurianne get back to Ingrid Holm to clarify ‘how’ their third criterion will be accomplished. [Post Script: Maurianne found that the 3rd criterion had been covered in the initial submission, attached to Dec 17th Agenda.]

Transfers:
Stephanie Chapko presented to the Council the results of her study of the numbers of transfer students who may need to have Integrative Experience options available during 2011-2012. (This report is attached to these Minutes.) The GEC had an extensive discussion of the various and serious concerns raised by these numbers for affected departments. During the discussion, it became clear that departments could not be asked to provide IE’s for these transfer students without compromising the quality of the IE options. A number of options were explored during this discussion. Council members raised issues such as the following: Identifying existing capstone courses, tweak current courses, try to rush the process. A consensus emerged that the best course of action would be to provide a blanket waiver for all transfer students who entered as juniors in Fall 2010 or Spring 2011 with 57 or more credits. This option was considered preferable to measures that were likely to compromise the quality of the IE, waste GEC time and effort in devising short-term measures for transfer students, and prove unmanageable from a Registrar’s perspective. A MOTION was offered by Anne Herrington to waive the IE requirement for students who enter Fall 2010 or Spring 2011 as juniors with 57 or more credits. In the discussion, the Dori McCracken and John Lenzi noted that the Registrar can track the credits with which students enter. This MOTION was PASSED by unanimous vote. Dori McCracken agreed to work with Stephanie Chapko and John Lenzi to develop the language for this blanket waiver, in time to submit the language for a vote at the February 24th Faculty Senate meeting, and a reaffirming vote at GEC on February 25th, before uploading the blanket waiver onto the GenEd Website or forwarding it to undergraduate deans and other advisors.

Davis Fellows
Martha Stassen reported that the Davis Fellows meetings have gone exceptionally well, with excellent participation and interesting ideas for department goals and objectives and IE options.

Reviewer Forms:
Sarah Jenness reviewed the on-line review forms that would be available to GEC reviewers for electronic submission of new GenEd proposals and QQ proposals. Comments arose as to the mobility within the forms from the viewpoint of the reviewer. Modifications were also made. On form LO, it was recommended to remove the “not applicable” option in the rating boxes, in section #4, take out the “for large classes” parentheses, and for LO & Q forms, replace “comments” with “please explain”.

Draft IE Proposal Forms:
Maurianne presented a 2-part draft proposal form for the IE. The 1st part would be a Departmental Proposal that would describe the overall departmental goals and objectives for the IE, and the options to be offered by the department for its majors. The 2nd part would be the actual proposal form for specific IE options. Council members made a number of suggestions which will be incorporated into a new draft to be presented at the Feb 25th meeting.

When completed, the proposal forms would be part of a larger IE document that would include the IE Preamble, the IE criteria and options, the IE timeline, and then the 2-parts of the IE proposal. This full document would go to all departments. The departmental plan would be annually revised.

GERICO
Maurianne recapped the decision by the GERICO committee, which had voted to amend the Gen Ed legislation to allow JYW, IE, & 1 diversity course to be added to the "one course" limit of major courses applied to General Education. This will be submitted for vote to the Feb 3rd Faculty Senate.

The 3 criteria for the IE will be offered for vote to the Feb 3rd Faculty Senate. Maurianne urged GEC members to attend the Feb 3rd Faculty Senate meeting, in the event that there are questions and discussion.

Next Meeting: Friday, February 25, 2011 at 2:30 PM, in the Chancellor’s Board Room, 370 Whitmore.