Minutes
General Education Council
Friday, September 30, 2011

Attendance:
Maurianne Adams, Bruce Baird, Carol Barr, Paulina Borrego, Alexandrina Deschamps, Ginger Etinde, Steve Gencarella, Judy Goodenough, Farshid Hajir, Claire Hamilton, Jo Hannah-Fitzgerald, Anne Herrington, Havian Hoang, John Lenzi, Ernest May, Dori McCracken, Kait Naji, Matt Ouellett, Alex Phillips, Amilicar Shabazz, Razvan Sibii, Reiko Sono, Karen Stevens, Julian Tyson

Welcome:
The Council welcomed new members Carol Barr, Paulina Borrego, Farshid Hajir, Havian Hoang, Alex Phillips, Karen Stevens and graduate assistants Jo Hannah-Fitzgerald and Kait Naji.

Updates:
Maurianne still needs to compile the updates for GenEd business from May and June and send them to the Council. Maurianne met at Commonwealth Honors College with the departmental Honors coordinators, to suggest ways they might include departmental honors students within their overall IE departmental plans.

Reports:
Davis Report: There is a new group of Davis Fellows this year; Martha Stassen and IE Steering Committee members have begun consulting with them next month. Matt Ouellett described the excellent turn-out for the two workshops offered under the auspices of the Davis grant, on ‘IE and Reflection.’

IE Funding: Carol Barr noted that the Provost has confirmed funding for the IE’s and developed a process. She summarized recent discussions, including the Rules committee discussions with the Provost, and the charge from the Provost to the IE steering committee to provide a “funding template” that will suggest costs related to various IE models. Some departments will not need funding; others will, in varying amounts, depending on IE needs. The Provost meets with Deans on October 4th to present the IE funding process. The IE Steering Committee will meet in October to examine current IE proposals, develop a template of costs related to models, and relay such information to department heads and chairs, and deans. Carol Barr, John McCarthy, and Bryan Harvey will join the IE Steering Committee for the purpose of creating this funding models. Carol emphasized that the goal is to do the IE and to do it right on this campus.

Ernie May noted that the increased number of students, and the reduction of GenEd courses through the 3-to-4 credit conversion, means that the capacities in the major and in GenEd are challenging. Psychology, for example, has 450 seniors per year, a clear challenge in addressing the IE. He noted the funding model approved by the Faculty Senate for $300.00/student enrolled in IE.

Revision to Overall Departmental Plan: Martha will develop language to be added to the Overall Departmental Plan, in response to which Department Chairs/Heads will submit budgets for their IE via the online system. These IE departmental budget requests will remain a part of the IE development online submission record.

GEC Meeting Time: The Council agreed to have all GEC meetings begin at 2:00 pm and end at 4:00 pm, starting with the October 28th meeting.

Reviews for 2011 – 2012:
The Council will begin QQ reviews at its October meeting. Reviews have been received so far from the
Biology, Math, Chemistry and Psychology departments. Maurianne summarized the function of the Council (approving courses, designation changes, QQ’s IE’s) and the need to restructure the subcommittees into two teams (a team for QQ’s course approvals or designation changes and a team for IE’s).

Reviewer committee assignments were handed out. Kait and Jo will use these lists to assign reviewers, 2 per review. Reviewers will have approximately 2 weeks to complete a review. Maurianne will check for completed reviews one full week prior to a forthcoming GEC meeting.

**GEC Reviewer Training Workshop:**

A number of GEC members will participate in a GEC Reviewer Training Workshop to be held on Monday October 17th from 4:00 – 5:00 pm, in the Provost’s Conference Room (Whitmore, 3rd floor). The workshop will be led by Jo, Kait and Maurianne.

**QQ and IE Votes and Approvals:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>QQ</th>
<th>Geology 101, “The Earth”</th>
<th>PASSED</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IE Carryovers from last semester: Biology 494:</td>
<td>Maurianne will discuss with proposer a broader scope of “integration” and Kait will assign the revised proposal to 2 reviewers, before it comes back to the GEC.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Comm 494</td>
<td>PASSED</td>
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<tr>
<td>English 494</td>
<td>Note: accept course without accepting budget and ask proposer to link the IE purpose sentence in syllabus with more detailed statement about the IE.</td>
<td>PASSED</td>
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<tr>
<td>History 494</td>
<td>PASSED</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sport Mgt. 480</td>
<td>PASSED</td>
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**Policy Questions:**

Prerequisites for GenEd courses: Council members supported the general policy of “no prerequisites,” as a way of maintaining access to GenEd courses to a general student body. Farshid Hashir argued the necessity of prerequisites for some courses as a way of assuring that students who enroll can satisfactorily manage the course content. Claire Hamilton suggested that the GEC approve the “guiding principle” that GenEd courses should not have prerequisites except for certain disciplines, such as math or Junior Year Writing. Maurianne asked for help in preparing a statement of guiding principle for a subsequent GEC vote.

IE Waivers for Transfer Students: The GEC agreed that transfer students who graduate by May 2012 request waiver of the IE by the Variance Committee ability, since the IE is not scheduled for implementation before Fall 2012.

**Next Meeting:** Friday, October 28, 2011 at 2 PM, in the Chancellor’s Board Room, 370 Whitmore. Please note new 2 pm startup time for Council meetings.