

GECC Meeting Minutes 11/12/09

Present: Carol Guerrero-Murphy, Stephanie Gonzalez, Ed Lyell, Margaret Doell, Marty Jones

The meeting was called to order shortly after 4 p.m. The agenda included reviewing of the Goal 3 reports received by Carol, addressing questions from Matt Nehring regarding approval of new general education courses from the Department of Chemistry, Computer Science, and Mathematics, and discussion of the revised matrix for aligning gen ed goals and SLOs.

Minutes from our previous meeting (provided by Margaret) were approved.

Carol shared an email from Matt Nehring that described a plan for submitting new courses to CRC and GECC for approval as general education courses. The plan included: 1) Prepare the paperwork needed to submit the courses for statewide guaranteed transfer; 2) Prepare the matrices indicating how the courses address the general education SLOs; 3) Write a brief narrative indicating how the courses address the general education goals as articulated in the catalog. The courses will first be submitted to the Curriculum Review Committee, and after approval by that body, the courses will be submitted to GECC. The committee all agreed that the proposed plan was fine. Carol will ask Matt to proceed accordingly.

We then moved to a discussion of the plans for assessing Goal 3 of General Education Requirements (The development of a global perspective (cultural, historical, societal, and scientific) from which a strong set of ethical and moral values can evolve) with the attendant student learning outcomes. Plans from Sociology, Art, and Music were approved without any modifications needed. (Stephanie mentioned that the Sociology students took the ETS exam yesterday and scored at the 80%ile in globalization and multiculturalism.) The plan for English needs to be fleshed out a bit, and Carol will do just that. For HGP, the plan was deemed appropriate for general education courses, but insufficient for graduating students. Carol will speak with Ed to ensure that the plan includes an assessment for graduates. Statement 2 in the HGP plan should focus on students rather than faculty. The plan from Theatre was appropriate for the Intro to Theatre course, but an assessment for graduates was not present. Carol will speak with John to ask for a modification. The plan from Business focused on Econ 201. We felt there needed to be more connection between the pre- and post- instruments. Also lacking was any assessment for graduates. Ed will work on this. The plan from Psychology needs to be revised. Marty will visit with Kim to clarify what sort of plan is needed for an assessment of Goal 3, at both the gen ed level and for graduating students. He'll take a copy of the Sociology plan for an example. The plan from Chemistry, Computer Science, and Mathematics needs to be revised. Marty will visit with Matt and Christy to see about getting a new plan prepared. Again, the plans from Art and Sociology can be used as examples. Each of the revised plans should be submitted prior to the end of this academic term.

No plans were received from HPPE, Nursing, Teacher Education, or Biology & Earth Sciences. Carol will get Goal 3 assessment plans on the agenda for the next Academic Council meeting and remind those departments of the need to submit their plans to GECC as soon as possible, certainly prior to the end of this academic term.

Stephanie had done some research on best practices for assessment and suggested some sort of cross-campus assessment, independent of department, would be beneficial for graduates. We thought that NSSE would provide some pertinent data, but that it might not be sufficient. I don't know who initially suggested this, but the committee all agreed that conducting an electronic survey of alumni with questions pertinent to all 4 gen ed goals would be a good idea. **Thus, we are each tasked with preparing 5 questions for this survey for our next meeting.** We'll discuss the questions, make revisions as needed, and prepare the survey instrument for distribution. We'll ask the Alumni Office for assistance in distributing the survey.

We deferred discussion of the revised matrix until a later meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 5:25 pm.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, December 3 in Business 227. Dr. Novotny will join us for at least a portion of the meeting to discuss issues pertaining to General Education curricula in Nursing and Distance Learning. Carol will check schedules to determine whether it will be possible for us to begin our meeting prior to 4 pm.

Submitted by Marty Jones, 11/13/09