

General Education Committee Minutes

Thursday, February 17, 2022

11:00 a.m. – 11:56 a.m.

Zoom

Present

J. Stanley, A. Fu, M. Junker, Q. Geng, K-H. Hsu, K. Newlander, M/ O’Byrne, K. Rauch, and K. Stanfa

Also Present

J. Chernekoff, B. Meares

Call to order

J. Stanley called the meeting to order at 11:00 am

I. Approval of Minutes

- No Minutes submitted for the meeting.
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II. Announcements

- Writing Group Update:
 - i. The group continues to meet. They discussed implementing a discipline specific approach to composition, and decided that there are not enough faculty to facilitate implementing this change.
 - ii. The group proposed changing CMP 200 to a special topics type course (similar to FYS), and implement a mentorship project for the instructors. Discussion ensued.
 1. The courses would all be listed as CMPU 200, and would only have the title or topic of the course change, just like with Special Topics courses.
 2. M. O’Byrne asked what the English Department faculty thought of this, and J. Stanley stated that the ones he spoke with approved of the idea.
 3. A. Fu believes that general support would be greater if we can figure out how to give credit to departments for their faculty teaching courses whose prefix is not housed in their department, and also wondered how that service is reflected in the five-year reviews. K. Rauch noted that programs discuss their contributions to General Education in their reviews, and it is sometimes favorably commented on by external reviewers. B. Meares asked about the approval process for the topics, and J. Stanley stated this would need to be discussed with the UCC chair to determine the correct process. M. O’Byrne asked how this would benefit current teachers in CMP courses, and J. Stanley noted it would make the course a more broad/overall course and not focused on just one particular discipline. This would also provide consistency

in the expectations of what students who have taken CMP 200 will have learned.

- Five-year Review: data collection period for the Gen Ed Program Review begins in Fall 2022. K. Rauch noted that all requests for data from Institutional Research need to be submitted to her, and she submits all requests for the semester to them. She also suggested looking at questions that the AGLS has in their online guide for program review. J. Stanley recommended that GEC members determine their data requests and submit them to the GEC chair to submit to K. Rauch.
- Bylaws Revision: J. Stanley stated he will send out the bylaws again and recommended the committee members review them for discussion at the next meeting.
- New FYE Director and Consistency in FYS:
 - i. New FYE Director: M. Khondaker
 - ii. M. Khondaker is focusing on increased consistency in FYS courses and what students are being taught. K. Hsu asked about what information transfer students who are not required to take FYS may be missing. J. Stanley reviewed the major items gone over in FYS courses, and added that transfer students who come to KU with 15 or more credits are not required to take FYS. K. Rauch noted that the Gen Ed check sheet still states 30 credits or more, not 15, and J. Stanley stated he will look into updating the check sheet language.
- Issues with GEAC Assessment data: J. Stanley noted that GEAC is having trouble getting all professors to submit student data and ratings. He also added that some departments have been creating their own rubrics for the SLOs and then submitting data based on that, and not on the GEC approved GEAC rubrics. He has sent emails to those he has been made aware of since this is not allowed, and that they need to be using the approved rubrics. If they need help applying the rubric to their course or assignment, faculty should reach out to GEAC for assistance.
- SLO 3 wording “data” – J. Stanley noted that “data” was meant to have a broad meaning, but that the terminology may be creating some confusion since data means different things to different disciplines.
- Chair election and March meeting
 - i. Senate has sent out ballots, and the election should be finished in early March. At that point, J. Stanley will call an urgent meeting for GEC to elect a new chair based on the full membership for Fall 2022. The 3/17 meeting is during Spring Break, so the regular meeting on 3/17 is cancelled, and the continuation meeting time of 3/22 will be used instead.

III. Proposals

- LAS 22044 CMP 100, Writing History. J. Stanley noted this was already sent to UCC. J. Stanley reviewed the course proposal, noting that M. Gambone plans to focus the course on veterans experiences and target the course toward veteran students. The intention is to work with the Office of Veterans Services to recruit potential students for the course. There was discussion on the disconnect between the title of the course and the content of the course. J. Stanley suggested the item be tabled until M. Gambone can attend and answer the committee’s questions. Moved

- for approval by M. O’Byrne and seconded by K. Rauch. It was moved to table by M. O’Byrne and seconded by K. Stanfa. MOTION PASSED.
- VPA 22033 Visual Culture Critical Thinking. Moved for approval by K. Newlander and seconded by M. Junker. MOTION PASSED.
 - LAS 22053 BIO 045 Evolution of Sex. R. Heineman was present to speak to this proposal. Discussion on the course content and the title. K. Rauch had a general comment on science teaching expectations, that one of the SLOs discusses application and asked how application would be achieved in a Biology course without a lab. She also was not sure how the assessment of that SLO would be affected. R. Heineman responded and proposed including some computer simulations to teach evolution. Discussion continued. Moved for approval by M. Junker and seconded by K. Newlander. MOTION PASSED.
 - LAS 22052 GER 217 German Comics. L. Kutch was present to speak to this proposal. Moved for approval by K. Rauch, seconded by K. Stanfa. MOTION PASSED.
 - COE 22003 FYS Research is My Superpower What’s Yours. R. Perkins was present to speak to this proposal. J. Stanley had a concern about using the CDC Career Exploration Certificate for SLO 7, and suggested having the students submit an essay or other response assignment for the GEAC assessment to demonstrate their understanding. R. Perkins agreed to update that in the proposal. Moved for approval by M. O’Byrne, and seconded by A. Fu. MOTION PASSED.

IV. Other Business

- J. Stanley asked committee to consider use of word “data” in SLO 3 before the next meeting. He also noted that in April there will be a joint meeting with GEAC.

V. Next meeting: March 22, 2022, via Zoom.

VI. Move to adjourn by K. Newlander, seconded by A. Fu. Meeting ended at 11:56am.