

General Education Committee Minutes

Thursday, December 15, 2022

11:00 a.m. – 11:59 a.m.

Zoom

Present

Megan O’Byrne, Qin Geng, Erin Kraal, Krista Prock, Karen Rauch, Matthew Junker, Ko-Hsin Hsu

Absent

Kathy Stanfa, Khori Newlander

Guest

Mahfuzul Khondaker

Call to order

M. O’Byrne called the meeting to order at 11:02 am

I. Approval of Minutes

a. Minutes from Nov 13, 2022

i. No edits

ii. It was moved by K. Prock, and seconded by Q. Geng, to approve the Minutes.
MOTION PASSED.

II. Announcements

a. none

III. Proposals

a. DNC 2201– No Major, No Problem

i. Discussion of history of this proposal. March 2022 this proposal was tabled. This proposal was discussed, but not approved at the April 2022 because items are not approved in the April meeting according to J. Stanley.

ii. Motion to consider K. Prock, second K. Rauch

iii. Changes proposed/recommend – change date to Fall 2023, if approved. E. Kraal – conceptually, what does it mean to have a student with a ‘major’ placed into the ‘non-major.’ K. Rauch – Agreed. Is the title appropriate? Would it be more aligned to other FYS courses to reflect the topic of hip-hop vs. ‘no-major, no problem.’ Typically – these seminars are named after their academic direction, not the major (or undeclared). M. O’Byrne – the assignments are broadly beneficial to all majors, not just ‘undeclared.’ Recommendation – realign the title for the content in the course and to make it more attractive to students? Q. Geng – how are students placed into the FYS – do the students themselves choose or are they placed into sections by the registrar? M. O’Byrne says that those students who attend CONNECTIONS do have agency in selecting which FYS they are in. Q. Geng – what about the opposite problem, students who do have a major selecting into this option rather than their FYS in their major/area. K. Rauch – is this course being scheduled for winter? Has this course been taught in the fall? It is a problem that a course is being taught that has not been approved. This is the second time a course has been taught that has not been approved.

iv. Recommendations – date change; friendly suggestion: name change

v. M. Khondaker said this course was approved under emergency approval from UCC was explained by John Stanley. There were several courses that were taught without

UCC/GEC approval. K. Rauch – there was only one course over the summer from VPA with emergency approval through UCC. It was not this course proposal or the other by M. Khondaker.

- vi. M. O’Byrne states course should not be taught without approval of GEC and announcement at UCC. The fact that two courses have done this is NOT precedent.
 - vii. K. Rauch moved to approve with date change and suggested title change to align with the rest of the FYS to focus on the topic, second K. Prock. MOTION PASSED: unanimous.
- b. DNC 2203 – College Success
- i. Motion to consider M. Junker, second K Prock.
 - ii. Discussion: M. O’Byrne missing academic, topical focus. Shared by M. Junker/K. Prock that this handles orientation but missing academic side. Recommendation: table for academic focus. M. Khondaker disputes that this has no academic focus that ‘academic success’ itself is an academic topic. M. O’Byrne – this focus on academic success needs to be engaged from a topic/academic approach (critical readings, etc.). M. Khondaker points to assignment 3a/3b. He states there is a lot of research on exploring college. He also says assignment 8, 9, 10 are academic focused. M. Khondaker says that they include and academic focus. K. Prock compares this to previous courses (like last meeting Scientific Problem Solving), but the if the topic is College Success, then it needs to be aligned with resources and requires descriptions/explanations.
 - iii. Motion to table K. Prock, Second M. Junker. MOTION PASSED: Unanimous

IV. New Business

- a. GEC/FYS Approval process
- i. K. Rauch shares she is very concerned that these courses are being scheduled without formal approval. How are these courses getting scheduled when they aren’t approved? M. O’Byrne will follow through on UCC/registrar on how these courses are getting scheduled.
 - ii. This committee reports to UCC – must be accountable for courses that are offered.
 - iii. Q. Geng – do we agree with the idea that academic success itself is an academic topic? That this doesn’t seem to align with previous ideas and could set a precedent. K. Hsu at this point DNC 2203 is more of a formula and needs to be enhanced with a topic so that it isn’t a template of the basics for all FYS classes.
- b. GEN/Ed Day
- i. Name discussion: General Education: Category C Workshop. This will include professional develop, rating and norming, rubric evaluation, integration of student success ideas into this. Committee members expressed the desire to see a more inviting title for the workshop.
 - ii. E. Kraal asks for possible speaker suggestions in the Cat C area from outside of KU.

V. Old Business

- a. Program Review
- i. Ongoing work
- b. Will still have continuation meeting on Jan 24th (2nd day in the term) so that we can catch any proposals for the upcoming semester into UCC before the deadline.

VI. Move to adjourn by K. Prock, seconded by M. Junker. Meeting ended at 11:59am.