

**UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA**  
**General Education Council**  
**Minutes of February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010**

Present: Laura Rusnak, Drew Smith, Sonia Wohlmuth, Roger Boothroyd, Michael Bowen, Hunt Hawkins, Sharon Geiger, Denise Passmore, Pat Maher, Amy Thompson, Jane Noll, Jianping Qi, Sandra Reynolds, Barbara Shircliffe, Kathy Laframboise, Eleni Manolaraki, Paul Reller

Absent: Ken Caswell, Jeff Ryan(Excused), Cheryl Zambroski, Ed Kellner (Excused)

Guests/Ex Officio: Janet Moore (UGS), Michael Kanning (UGS), Diane Williams (C21TE), Steve RiCharde (IEA), Bob Potter (CAS), Karla Davis-Salazar (FAC), Joe Moxley (FAC), Dan Belgrad (FAC)

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m.

The minutes of January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2010 were approved with revisions.

**Announcements**

- Kersaint introduced the Faculty Assessment Coordinators, who were asked to attend the meeting. The FACs work directly with those faculty members teaching courses in particular core areas to ensure that Assessment-related efforts proceed smoothly.

**New Business**

- Guest Speakers
  1. The USF Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) – Janet Moore, Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies and QEP Director – Janet Moore spoke about the impact of the USF QEP on the activities of the Council.
    - Dr. Moore distributed information and explained how the FKL, along with Undergraduate Research, are two integral parts of the QEP. SACS, in their review of USF, will be looking at to what degree we have addressed the commitments made in the QEP. She emphasized areas for which the Council will need to focus its attention for the remainder of the semester: encouraging the submission of capstone courses, reviewing assessment data, determining the recertification process, and helping faculty understand the QEP's focus on Inquiry-Based Learning.
    - Dr. Kersaint affirmed areas of needed attention and suggested that the Council will engage in ongoing discussions to refine the curriculum and focus on the recertification process. She encouraged Council members to encourage submissions of capstone courses from faculty in their respective units.
  2. Assessment of Student Writing Skills – Joe Moxley, Faculty Assessment Coordinator for the writing dimension of the FKL Core Curriculum requested support from the Council for a proposal to the technology committee for funds to develop a web-based interface to provide resources to students and faculty about the writing process and to provide a means for assessing the writing dimension.
    - He shared the rubric that was developed and is being used by First Year Composition instructors to easily and consistently share pedagogical experiences and to assess the writing of FYC students. The intent is for the rubric to be integrated as a part of this system and used for both FYC and writing intensive courses.

- Dr. Moxley also suggested that because this type of system is being used to assess writing in FYC courses, that it might be appropriate for the GEC to mandate its use for assessment purposes in the Exit/Writing Intensive Courses. This would allow the university to determine the extent to which students' experiences at USF have contributed to their writing abilities. Council members expressed concern about providing such a mandate at this time, but are willing to revisit this recommendation if 1) the web-interface is funded and 2) the assessment data provides sufficient information to warrant its use in Exit courses.
- The council voted to support the proposal and its request for funds for the development of the web-based interface.

### **Old Business**

- Information Literacy Dimension proposal for discussion – Drew Smith distributed and presented information showing the relationship between inquiry-Based Learning and Information Literacy. He argued that Information Literacy skills were necessary components of many Inquiry-Based learning skills. As a result, it may be that faculty would like to see certain Information Literacy skills included and assessed as part of the FKL Core. There was some discussion about how this relationship can be used to help the FKL in the future. Council members were asked to review the information that was shared for further discussion at the next meeting.

### **Approved Courses**

- a) No Funding Request

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|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>1. BSC2085 - Anatomy &amp; Physiology 1 for Health Professionals</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                     |
| Core Area – Natural (Life) Science                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Dimensions – CT, INQ, SCP, ENP      |
| Introduction to the normal structure, function and selected pathological conditions for physiologic systems. Focus on understanding how the body functions in preparing for careers in nursing or health-related professions.                                                     |                                     |
| <b>2. FIN2100 – Personal Finance</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                     |
| Core Area – Quantitative Reasoning                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Dimensions – CT, INQ, ETP, INL, QUL |
| Survey of the problems and techniques of personal financial planning. Includes consumer credit, insurance, home ownership, and personal investing, with attention given to current economic and legal constraints.                                                                |                                     |
| <b>3. IDH4200 – Honors Geographical Perspectives</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                     |
| Core Area – Human and Cultural Diversity in a Global Context                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Dimensions – CT, INQ, GLC, HCD      |
| An introduction to African, Latin American, Middle Eastern, or Asian perspectives focusing on social, political and economic, artistic, cultural and intellectual subject matter. The material will be presented within a geographical, chronological, and humanities background. |                                     |
| <b>4. MUH4370 – Representing the United States in Music</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                     |
| Core Area – Writing Intensive                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Dimensions – CT, INQ, CPE           |
| This course explores works by twentieth-century composers that define aspects of American life.                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                     |

We will examine a diverse selection of pieces and genres ranging from traditional European art music forms to jazz, rock, and hip hop.

### 5. WST3311 – Issues in Feminism

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|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Core Area – Social and Behavioral Sciences | Dimensions – CT, INQ, HCD, IRD |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|

This course expands on existing knowledge, as well as provides new awareness, to the experiences women face within society. Critical issues, such as racism, sexism, homophobia and many more will be examined from a cultural context.

#### b) Funding Request

### 6. GLY2100 – History of Life

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|----------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Core Area – Natural (Physical) Science | Dimensions – CT, INQ, ENP, QUL |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------------------|

This course has several objectives. It is an introduction not only to basic scientific concepts in geology and evolutionary theory but, perhaps more importantly, to science as a way of understanding the world around you and finding answers to big questions.

#### Review Issues

- HIS4936 will be returned.
- MAC1147 and AML4303 will be referred to Diane Williams from the Center for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Teaching Excellence for assistance.
- MAC2241 was recommended for approval by two members of the review team. Because a representative from the review team was not available, action was not taken.
- The Council approved changing the SPA4050 from fulfilling the CASB requirement to Exit/Capstone.
- Although recommended for approval, the council would like to verify the Core Area for AFA4335.
- Core Area changes to ANT4241 and HUM2466 were tabled until the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 pm.

The next meeting will be on February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010.