

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

Present: Jeff Ryan, Sonia Wohlmuth, Jane Noll, Hunt Hawkins, Michael Bowen, Barbara Shircliffe, Ed Kellner, Roger Boothroyd, Sandra Reynolds, Drew Smith, Denise Passmore, Laura Rusnak, Paul Reller, Pat Maher, Brandy Lehman, Gladis Kersaint

Absent: Sharon Geiger, Amy Thompson (excused), Jianping Qi (excused), Kathy Laframboise (excused), Eleni Manolaraki (excused), Phil Levy, Ken Caswell

Guests/Ex Officio: Michael Kanning (UGS), Diane Williams (C21TE) Janet Moore (UGS), Bob Sullins (UGS), Steve RiCharde (IEA), Felix Wao (IEA), Marvin Moore (IEA)

The meeting was called to order at 3:07 p.m.

The minutes of February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010 were approved with corrections.

**Announcements**

- **Guest Speaker – Steve RiCharde, AVP Institutional Effectiveness** – Steve RiCharde spoke to the council about concerns with the lack of assessment data for the Gen Ed program. Assessment of the GenEd program is a large part of the response to the QEP that SACS will be examining in the 5<sup>th</sup> year report. In particular the number of critical course assignments needed to measure the FKL learning outcomes is very low. There needs to be work on implementing a process whereby new course proposals and existing courses can provide a critical course assignment. Felix Wao, from IEA, distributed a draft version of a template for a web site that will allow faculty to easily submit critical course assignments. Steve RiCharde suggested that the council and the faculty assessment coordinators (FACs) need to work together more closely to ensure that assessment of GenEd proceeds smoothly. FACs have already been working and have helped get data for a few of the dimensions. Core Areas will also need to be assessed. The MAPP test has been performed and will need to be performed again for this purpose. Steve RiCharde suggested that the council may wish to pursue more standardized assessment options in addition to the rubric-based assessments. FKL assessment was originally planned with rubric-based assessments in mind, but now there is understanding that program assessment can be done well with several other assessment options. These make the process more efficient and do not detract from evaluation of individual student learning, which can continue to be done through rubrics as instructors choose.
  - Bob Sullins added that the demands of SACS regarding assessment needs have increased since the QEP was written.
  - Chair Kersaint reminded the council of a letter distributed to department chairs on June 16, 2009 to provide information about and solicit critical course assignments. There has been little direct follow-up with faculty. Also, care needs to be taken in soliciting the critical course assignments to ensure that all of the assessed dimensions are adequately addressed and that critical assignments are applicable to all sections of a particular course.
  - There was some discussion as to the best way to solicit these assignments. It was decided that a link to the site proposed by IEA would be added to the GEC course proposal site. For existing courses, the proposers will need to be asked to visit the IEA website and submit an assignment. The FACs will help communicate with both the faculty and council regarding this process.
  - It was determined that the FACs can be used to support these efforts. The QEP director will work with the FACs and Assessment team to devise a plan to obtain the needed assessment.

## New Business

- **Committee Reports**

- a) **Recertification Committee** – Will meet soon. Janet Moore asked to be included as part of this committee.
- b) **Information Literacy Committee** – Yet to meet but will meet soon. Denise Passmore will serve instead of Brandy Lehman.
- c) **Funding Committee** – The status of available funding is unknown, so this committee will not meet until the availability of funds is determined.

## Old Business

- None

## Approved Courses

- a) No Funding Request

<b>1. BSC2010 – Cellular Processes – COURSE APPROVED</b>	
Core Area – Natural (Life) Science	Dimensions – CT, INQ, SCP, WLS
This course deals with biological systems at the cellular and subcellular levels. Topics include an introduction to biochemistry, cell structure and function, enzymes, respiration, mitosis and meiosis, genetics and gene expression.	

<b>2. MAC2242 – Life Sciences Calculus II – COURSE APPROVED</b>	
Core Area – Mathematics	Dimensions – CT, INQ, SCP, QUL
The course is an introduction to differential and integral calculus (of one and several variables), differential equations, linear algebra and analytic geometry, probability and statistics, with applications of mathematics in life sciences.	

- b) Funding Request

<b>3. MAC2233 – Business Calculus – COURSE APPROVED</b>	
Core Area – Mathematics	Dimensions – CT, INQ, SCP, QUL
Differentiation and integration of algebraic, exponential and logarithmic functions with applications to business, finance and economics.	

## Review Issues

- MAC1147 – Precalculus Algebra and Trigonometry was asked to be removed from consideration in the FKL by the Mathematics Department (per Scott Rimbey). Undergraduate studies will follow up on this request to see how this might impact students.
- Course syllabi need to include the FKL statement. Reviewers should determine whether it has been included as part of the review process, but this should not delay course approval. If it is missing, the chair will ask the course submitter to add the needed information prior to formalizing the course approval.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:38 pm. The next meeting will be on March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010.