

**UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA**  
**General Education Council**  
**Minutes of April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

Present: Phil Levy, Sonia Wohlmuth, Ken Caswell, Jane Noll, Hunt Hawkins, Michael Bowen, Jianping Qi, Barbara Shircliffe, Ed Kellner, Sharon Geiger, Sandra Reynolds, Drew Smith, Laura Rusnak, Paul Reller, Gladis Kersaint, Pat Maher

Absent: Jeff Ryan (excused), Kathy Laframboise (excused), Eleni Manolaraki (excused), Roger Boothroyd (excused), Denise Passmore (excused), Amy Thompson

Guests/Ex Officio: Michael Kanning (UGS), Diane Williams (C21TE), Janet Moore (UGS)

The meeting was called to order at 3:03 p.m.

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

**Announcements**

- No news from mathematics and Statistics about STA1022. Waiting to hear if course will indeed not be offered.

**New Business**

- **Membership** – Many members of the council will be completing their terms of service. Members are encouraged to talk to fellow faculty about serving on the council. Members must be appointed by the Faculty Senate Committee on Committees.

- **Committee Reports**

- a) **Recertification Committee** – Committee member Paul Reller read a report discussing the March 16, 2010 meeting of the Recertification Committee. The committee is working to develop a recertification plan that can be completed entirely online and which requires a minimum amount of faculty labor. The committee did not deal with future changes to the curriculum (i.e. the number of dimensions), but expect future changes might affect parts of the recertification process. Part of the process will involve submission of an assessment method for one approved dimension besides critical thinking. In addition to assessment information, courses will be asked to show the steps that have been taken to ensure that the course continues to be offered as proposed to the GEC, as well as notice of any substantive changes to the course. Courses that receive GEC funding will also be asked to show how those funds for TA support are used to enhance the course. Finally, an updated FKL Course Syllabus will be requested. After an extended discussion, council members expressed several concerns.

- Concerns were expressed regarding the relationship between the Assessment needs and the goals of the GEC.
- Some faculty were concerned that the QEP and current assessment needs were driving decisions about the curriculum. The University's faculty are in charge of the curriculum, and assessment is intended to support the implementation of the QEP.
- There was discussion concerning whether the recertification process would require courses to select one of the assessed dimensions.

The recertification committee will consider the issues that were raised as they continue to refine the recertification process.

- b) **Funding Committee** - It is still unclear if the GEC will have new funds to distribute to courses.

## Old Business

- **FKL Assessment and Learning Outcome Assignments** – There was discussion regarding the structure of the rubric-based assessment of the FKL through Learning Outcome Assignments (formerly Critical Course Assignments). In particular, an LOA needs to be applicable to a course taught by different instructors with varied content. The LOAs should be designed in a general enough way so as to apply across varied sections of the same course. Work needs to be done by the Council and the Faculty Assessment Coordinators to clarify what is being requested by the GEC regarding Assessment (particularly the LOAs).

## Approved Courses

a) No Funding Request

<b>1. AFA2367 – History and Theory of Genocide – COURSE APPROVED</b>	
Core Area – Human and Cultural Diversity in a Global Context	Dimensions – CT, INQ, HCD, ETP
This course examines the concept of genocide; its origins in human history and the evolution of international law aimed at defining and criminalizing genocide.	

b) Funding Request

<b>2. MGF1107 – Mathematics for Liberal Arts – COURSE APPROVED</b>	
Core Area – Mathematics	Dimensions – CT, INQ, SCP, QUL
This course is intended to demonstrate to the general student population the beauty and utility of mathematics. Possible topics: Financial Mathematics, Linear and Exponential Growth, Number Systems, Fair Division, Voting Techniques, Graph Theory.	

## Review Issues

- MHS4xxx is a new University course proposal ready for GEC review.
- WST2600 is working with the C21TE to address problems
- MUL3010 was resubmitted, and the Delivery Method (Online) has been corrected in the proposal.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:42 pm. This was the final meeting of the GEC for Spring 2010.