

**UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA**  
**General Education Council**  
**Minutes of January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

Present: Karla Davis-Salazar (chair), Gerald Woods, Jane Noll, William Cummings, Dan Belgrad, Manish Agrawal, Mariam Manzur-Leiva, Marty Gould, Jerry Collins, Barbara Shircliffe, Scott Rimbey, Audrey Powers, Jianping Qi, Sandra Czerwinski, Denise Maguire, Sandy Reynolds, Susan Silver, Annette Christy, Mary Fournier, Samantha Toro

Absent: Audra Parker (excused), Jeff Cunningham (excused), Stephan Schindler (excused), Alison Oberne, Shazia Mitha, James Bodden

Guests/Ex Officio/ Michael Kanning (UGS), Janet Moore (UGS), Cynthia Brown-Hernandez (UGS),  
Resource Staff: Diane Williams, Arnie Mejias, Bea Smith

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

The minutes of November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2011 were approved with minor edits.

**Announcements**

- The council welcomed new member Annette Christy from the College of Behavioral and Community Sciences, and also noted the confirmation of the two representatives from the College of Nursing – Sandra Czerwinski and Denise Maguire.

**New Business**

- **Courses used in calculating overall GenEd GPA** –USF's degree auditing software has been counting *all attempts* at FKL coursework, even failed attempts, towards the overall FKL GPA requirement of 2.0. This makes it very difficult for students who have failed any FKL courses to reach the minimum overall GPA requirement, even after fulfilling all FKL requirements with passing coursework grades (C- minimum). The council discussed why it was decided that a C- was required in individual courses when a 2.0 overall GPA is required in the FKL. This may need to be re-examined later. The council voted to **approve** language for the course catalog that makes it clear that only *successful* attempts in FKL coursework counts towards the overall FKL GPA calculation. The language is as follows:
  - *“Students must receive a minimum grade of C- in each course that fulfills any requirement in the FKL core curriculum, including the Capstone Experience. S/U grades are not acceptable for USF FKL courses. Those courses completed satisfactorily and applied to meet the FKL General Education requirements must have an overall GPA of 2.00.”*
- **Gordon Rule Communication enrollment limitations question** – Due to an inquiry from outside the council regarding the enrollment limitation on Gordon Rule Communication courses, it was clarified that the 30 students per grader limitation is not a state requirement but a USF requirement. Concern was expressed on the enforcement of this limitation and whether it may be changed. It was explained that the issue was brought before the council in order to clarify that the enrollment limitation was no longer required by the state.

**Old Business**

- **Capstone Experience committee** – The Capstone Experience committee will need to meet soon to address some ambiguities in the recently revised Capstone language.
- **FKL Critical Thinking Task Force** – Council member Dan Belgrad gave an account of the most recent Critical Thinking task force meeting. The task force worked to revise the FKL Critical Thinking learning outcome. The council reviewed this outcome and approved the changes with

some revisions. The task force also discussed methods of assessing Critical Thinking and is working with the assessment staff to explore further options.

- The changes to the Learning Outcome were approved as follows:
  - i. Old: *“Students will be able to critically evaluate information in light of its logical consistency, evidence, and justification of conclusions and analyze and explain relationships between presented information and concepts.”*
  - ii. New: *“Students will be able to critically evaluate information in light of its logical consistency, evidence, and justification of conclusions, analyze and explain relationships between presented information and concepts; uncover underlying assumptions, and consider multiple hypotheses and interpretations before formulating opinions.”*
- **FKL Assessment updates** – Steve RiCharde, Marvin Moore, and Jennifer Gangi distributed and reviewed the FKL assessment plan. USF’s MyReviewers assessment tool for writing and critical thinking is being piloted in WRIN Capstone courses this semester and Dimension-based assessments will be occurring on alternating cycles.
- **Global Citizenship General Education program updates** – The GE GC program, which began in Fall 2011 is progressing well with 27 students. In Fall 2012, 3 cohorts will be added, which will include students from the colleges of Engineering, Business, and Honors, in addition to the current cohort in Arts & Sciences. In order to make the program viable for more students, the number of courses that make up the GE GC program is going to be reduced from the 9 that were originally included.

### Courses Proposals

- No new courses were approved at this time.

### Recertification

- Under Review
  1. ASH2270 – Southeast Asian History (CAHU) – Recertification was **approved** with some minor amendments to the proposal.
  2. THE4330 – Shakespeare for the Theatre (WRIN) – Recertification proposal will be **returned** for more information.
- Needing Reviewers
  1. Review teams were established for the remainder of the second cohort of recertification proposals. The courses are: ANT2000, CGS2060, EGN3835, ENC1101, ENC1102, FRT3140, HSC2130, LIT2000, LIT2010, LIT2030, PHH2000, PHI1103, PHI1600, SYO4430 and SYP3000. All proposals are complete with the exception of SYP3000. Reviews should be completed prior to the February 20<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### Course Review Issues

- Review teams were assigned for the active proposals AFA4424 and MUE4936.

### Substantive Changes

- Substantive Change proposals from the Honors College to make the FKL courses IDH 3400 and IDH 4200 repeatable for up to 6 credits were discussed. The council requests more information from the Honors College before a decision can be made.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50pm.

The next meeting of the GEC will occur on February 6<sup>th</sup> in SVC 5012.