

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA
General Education Council
Minutes of November 19, 2012

Present: Karla Davis-Salazar (chair), Manish Agrawal, Dan Belgrad, Annette Christy, William Cummings, Jeff Cunningham, Mary Fournier, C. David Frankel, Chung Seop Jeong, Denise Maguire, Mariam Manzur-Leiva, Alison Oberne, Audra Parker, Audrey Powers, Scott Rimbey, Stephan Schindler, Susan Silver, Gerald Woods

Absent: Sandy Czerwinski (excused), Marty Gould (excused), Ippokratis Kantzios (resigned), Sandy Reynolds

Guests/Ex Officio/

Resource Staff: Kevin Yee (ATLE), Sue RiCharde (UGS)

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.

The minutes of November 5, 2012, were approved.

Old Business

- Statewide General Education Committees progress – update
 - Karla Davis-Salazar updated the council on the statewide Social Science General Education Committee’s recent conference call (Natural Sciences met via conference call as well). The Social Science committee defined and approved two competencies below. All courses selected for inclusion in the Social Science area must address these two competencies.

CRITICAL THINKING: Students will be able to examine behavioral, social, and cultural issues from a variety of points of view.

SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE KNOWLEDGE: Students will be able to explain basic social and behavioral science concepts and principles used in the analysis of behavioral, social, and cultural issues, past and present, local and global.

- The next issue for the Social Science committee to address is the selection of courses. Karla shared a document that listed 20 Social Science courses being considered for the Gen Ed requirement. Within the statewide Social Science General Education Committee discussions, the first six courses listed (PSY x012; SYG x000; AMH x010; AMH x020; POS x041; and ECO x013) were discussed as possibly being the best options because the greatest number of Florida institutions offer them. Karla asked the GEC for feedback on this approach to selecting courses. There did not seem to be support among the GEC for this kind of approach.
- The question was raised, if courses are not selected based on how many institutions offer them, exactly what criteria will be used?
- One GEC member stated that the goal for Florida should be to produce college-educated citizens who know something about all Social Science areas. Another suggested a focus on global citizenship.
- A suggestion from the statewide Social Science General Education Committee’s was to keep prefixes and course numbers the same, however drop the “Introduction to” from

course titles so as to make the courses more 'Gen Ed-like.' Example: change Intro to Psych to "Human Behavior."

- One GEC suggestion was POS be dropped/replaced, since 12th grade Florida high school students already take Political Science/Government Courses. Karla responded that those among the state Social Science committee who teach this course say that the freshman they've taught do not have sufficient knowledge when they enter college.
- Other comments: 5 or 6 majors are represented in those first six options; IDS or ISS courses (Interdisciplinary) could be used to meet the requirements; Economics course overlap with the College of Business. It was pointed out that Econ is no longer housed in the COB, but rather in CAS.

New Business

- USF System Faculty Council meeting of Nov. 15
 - Karla Davis-Salazar updated the group on a recent USF System Faculty Council meeting in Sarasota, which Karla and Janet Moore attended. The chairs of the general education committees at USF St. Petersburg and USF Sarasota-Manatee also attended. Each gave a report on the issues facing their respective campuses.
 - One issue pointed out by the other two campuses is that under SACS, the University of South Florida is 3 separate institutions. However, according to the State University System of Florida, USF is one institution. As a result, USF Sarasota-Manatee and USF St. Petersburg do not have representation on any of the disciplinary statewide general education committees. To keep the lines of communication open among the three campuses, Karla will invite the general education committee chairs from the other two campuses to the Tampa GEC meeting.
- GEC Membership
 - Karla Davis-Salazar initiated a discussion about the size of the General Education Council going forward, i.e., should it be larger? smaller?
 - There are currently 5 vacancies on the council, and it was announced that Ippokratis Kantzios had resigned from the GEC.
 - It was noted that, since there is so much work to be done currently (i.e., changes to Gen Ed), the status quo should remain for now. Also, reducing the membership count would increase the burden on the remaining members with regard to recertification. However, it was acknowledged that the legislative changes will impact the number of general education offerings so the recertification workload may not be as great in the future.
 - Another suggestion was perhaps meeting once per month rather than bi-weekly.

Recertifications

- None

New Courses Approved

- HUM 2273 – The Cultures of East and West II (CAGC: GLC, HCD)
- NUR 4169c – Evidence-based Practice for Baccalaureate-prepared Nurses (WRIN: SCP, WLS)
- REL 4499 – Classics of Christian Thought (WRIN: WLS)

New Course Proposals Submitted

- None

New Course Proposals (Resubmits) Under Review

- DAN 4134 – Ballet History (WRIN: CPE, WLS)
- DAN 4135 – Modern Dance History (CPST: HHCP)

New Course Proposal Tabled

- QMB 3150 – Research Methods in Business (CAQR: SCP, QUL): pending more information

The meeting was adjourned at 4:19 p.m.

The next meeting of the GEC will occur on December 3, 2012, in SVC 5012 at 3:00 p.m.