

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA
General Education Council (GEC)
Minutes of November 18, 2013

Present: Karla Davis-Salazar (chair), Maryellen Allen, Adonis Amparo, Ross Anandel, Dan Belgrad, Darlene Bruner, Katherine Davis, C. David Frankel, Hunt Hawkins, Chung Seop Jeong, Pat Jones, Mariam Manzur-Leiva, Stephan Schindler, Thomas Williams (for Michael DeJonge)

Absent: Sandy Czerwinski (excused), David Payne (excused), Scott Rimbey (excused), Gerald Woods

Guests/Ex Officio/

Resource Staff: Arnie Mejias (Honors College), Janet Moore (UGS), Sue RiCharde (UGS), Kevin Yee (ATLE)

1. Welcome and Announcements --The meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm.
 - a. Karla Davis-Salazar introduced Darlene Bruner from the College of Education. The chair again announced that she is available to meet with new council members one-on-one to discuss procedures, questions, etc.
2. Approval of Minutes
 - a. The minutes from the November 4, 2013 meeting were approved as written.
3. Old Business
 - a. QEP Updates
 - i. An update was given by the chair of the council on the Global Citizens Project (USF's 2015 QEP). Two of the QEP's initial learning outcomes were taken from FKL Dimensions: Human and Cultural Diversity (HCD) and Global Context (GLC). Karla Davis-Salazar, chair of the QEP Steering Committee, has called a meeting for faculty teaching in these FKL dimensions to solicit their feedback on how to break these down and clarify them for the QEP learning outcomes. The HCD group will meet on November 21, and the GLC group meeting will be announced soon.
4. New Business
 - a. FKL Assessment
 - i. The chair expressed interest in reforming the FKL assessment committee.
 - FKL assessment, which had previously been under the purview of the GEC and is part of the GEC's charge, had moved to the Office of Institutional Effectiveness a few years ago when USF was preparing to submit the 5th Year Interim Report to SACS.
 - Since then, Faculty Assessment Coordinators (FAC), typically appointed from outside the GEC, have assumed responsibility for recruiting faculty to participate in FKL assessment and for submitting the assessment data to the Office of Institutional Effectiveness, for which they received compensation.
 - Given that assessment is part of the charge of the GEC and that responsibility for maintaining a curriculum should involve assessment, the chair believes that assessment of the FKL should come back to the GEC. This would also help get assessment results back to the faculty, that is, to "close the loop."

- Two documents were provided: overview of the GEC charge, which included tasks for the assessment committee, and an assessment schedule.
 - ii. There was initial reluctance on the part of the council to take on assessment due to the increased workload. Ultimately, four individuals volunteered to serve on the assessment subcommittee. These individuals will be relieved of their course proposal reviewing duties while serving.
 - b. FKL Courses and Gordon Rule-Communication (GR)
 - i. The chair informed the GEC that there are very few lower-level FKL courses approved for Gordon Rule Communication in spring 2014 (only 13). Departments often encourage students to take FKL courses that are also Gordon Rule so that they fulfill two requirements with one course and thus avoid excess hours, particularly in those majors with very tight curriculum. She raised the question of whether or not it would be better to make all lower-level FKL courses also satisfy Gordon Rule Communication so that a student would finish FKL and GR together?
 - ii. The GEC was not in support of this idea for various reasons, including lack of funding for the necessary small class size, the need for students to practice writing at the upper level, the decreased demand for upper-level writing courses that would result, and the fact that not all faculty are prepared to teach writing. It was suggested instead that all CPST and WRIN be made Gordon Rule Communication.
5. Recertifications
- a. Under Review (resubmitted)
 - i. CLT 3103 Greek Literature in Translation (WRIN: WLS, ETP) **TABLED**
 - b. Review Team Assigned
 - i. GLY 2160 Geology of the National Parks (CANP: ENP, QUL, SCP)
 - It was noted that on the agenda, this course was mistakenly labeled as CASB.
6. New Course Proposals
- a. Under Review (new)
 - i. EEC 4008 Teaching Literature and Writing in Early Childhood (WRIN: WLS) **TABLED**
 - b. Review Team Assigned
 - i. EGN 4800 Contemporary Issues in STEM Education (CPST: IRD)

The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m. The next GEC meeting is scheduled for December 2, 2013.