

UNIVERSITY GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

April 16, 2012

11:00 – 12:30 p.m., Mason Hall, D101

Attending: Janette Muir (chair), Rick Diecchio, Kelly Dunne, Doug Eyman, Marcy Glover (recording secretary), Mack Holt, Frank Allen Philpot, Kammy Sanghera,

Absent: Kim Eby, Hugh Sockett, Cliff Sutton, Mark Uhen, Carol Urban (sick leave), Peter Winant (study leave)

Guest: Karen Gentemann and Stephanie Hazel, Institutional Assessment

Agenda

1. Approval of March minutes
2. Outstanding Proposals
3. Assessment Schedule for FY 12 – 13
4. General Education Retreat
5. Other Business

Call to Order

The meeting started at 11:01 a.m.

Minutes

The March meeting minutes were approved with no changes.

Notification Process

In future, when a course is approved for the general education curriculum notification will be sent to the Dean, departmental chair and the faculty member who submitted the proposal.

Information Technology/Math/Natural Science subcommittee

NCLC 103 – NATURAL SCIENCE, NON LAB – RETURNED

The subcommittee does not recommend that this course count for the natural science, non lab requirement. They felt that the course was too light and that it is not in parallel with other courses in the natural science inventory. The other courses are introductory science courses to understanding the natural and physical world. Kelly shared that it was modeled after UNIV 301, a survey overview of the various sciences. The concern with this course is the content, “they read about Darwin, but they don’t read Darwin.” The course is very creative in how the course is taught, but the committee needs to see more science to balance the creativity. Perhaps they need to create a separate course just for the science component?

NCLC 103 – INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY – RETURNED

The subcommittee does not recommend this course for approval. They feel that the latest revision gets the course closer, but that the core concepts still are not addressed sufficiently

(only 1 or 2 lectures). In addition, there is not enough content regarding ethics or security (what topics are covered). The subcommittee would like to see the assignments and readings and see how they map to the learning outcomes. Given the nature of NCLC courses, they are having difficulty seeing the IT category as currently presented in the proposal. They need more explicit/detailed information.

Due to the integrative nature of Cornerstones and the challenges the program has in making it fit traditional expectations for certain general education categories there has been great difficulty in getting these two courses approved. The Cornerstones program was asked to take high achieving students who could not get into the Honors program and they met the challenge. Students are promised 27 hours of general education credit, so there is a serious issue of students being told one thing by Admissions, but the actual courses cannot make it through the committee.

CDS 102 – NATURAL SCIENCE, LAB – APPROVED

GENERAL EDUCATION RETREAT

Janette passed around a sign up sheet for people who are interested in participating in the retreat to provide their availability. Once a date is selected she will notify the committee. The retreat will be from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Those who participate will receive a \$200 stipend. Morning coffee and lunch will be provided. The purpose of the retreat will be to discuss general education overall, the learning outcomes, the mission of general education and where do we go next? What works? What doesn't? The dates under consideration are May 29 or 30, June 4 or 8.

ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE FOR NATURAL SCIENCE AND QUANTITATIVE REASONING – KAREN GENTEMANN AND STEPHANIE HAZEL, INSTITUTIONAL ASSESSMENT

Stephanie shared a draft of the assessment schedule for the next few cycles; this is only a draft, do not share. It is anticipated that Natural Science will be evaluated in Fall 2012 and Quantitative Reasoning in either Spring 2013 or Fall 2013. There is difficulty in coordinating schedules to begin this process, hence the possible delay.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.