

UNIVERSITY GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

November 10, 2010

1:00 – 2:30 p.m., Mason Hall D3

Attending: Rick Davis (chair), Don Boileau, Rick Diecchio, Doug Eyman, Marcy Glover (recording secretary), Frank Alan Philpot, Kammy Sanghera, Karen Studd, Cliff Sutton, Carol Urban, Peter Winant

Absent: Kim Eby, Claire Snyder-Hall, Hugh Sockett (on study leave this semester)

Guests: Ying Zhou and Karen Gentemann (Institutional Assessment)

I. Call to Order

- The meeting started at 1:04 p.m.

II. New Business

A. Portfolio Debrief – Synthesis

- 9 portfolios are still being assessed
- The statement was made: “This course has no business being a synthesis course, now what?” The course in question is approved under a special BOV exemption from 2000 – to remove the course would require a vote from the BOV. Rick Davis will speak with the unit to work on bringing the course into alignment as a synthesis course.
- Currently four courses have been flagged as problematic. Rick, Karen and Ying will meet with the relevant department chairs to work on these courses.
- Currently, the best courses were also part of the Critical Thinking learning group – nice coincidence!
- There was a question of special topics courses. There are only two on the book for synthesis. A master syllabus was approved and special topics are currently approved by the chair of the general education committee as they are created.
- The question of decoupling courses (also discussed at Oct. 21 meeting) was raised. AVT 492 intends to decouple from 493.
- It was recommended that a small subcommittee work on crafting language for the poorly rated courses as feedback to the units.

B. New General Education category

- Randy Gable and Giuseppina Kysar have proposed a new category of general education. It will be posted online for discussion later in the semester. There was initial resistance – “not very gen ed to force on everyone.” Possibly too expensive to implement. The other categories of gen ed are “domains of knowledge.” Is there a better way to handle this, such as Sustainability Across the Curriculum (SUSTAC)? Could students take a cluster of classes to fulfill the requirement?

C. Center for International Student Access course proposal

- **UNIV 105** was submitted as a social and behavioral sciences course for students in this program. Many felt that it worked better as a global understanding. Besides the question of approving the course, the matter of whether or not we should approve the courses in CISA individually or as an

articulation agreement was raised. The proposal will be posted online and the discussion continued at the next meeting.

III. Old Business

A. Synthesis Learning Outcome statement

- Doug asked for clarification of the second sentence in the learning outcome. The original statement: Connect issues in a given field to wider intellectual, community or societal concerns using perspectives from two or more disciplines. The revised statement: Using perspectives from two or more disciplines, connect issues in a given field to wider intellectual, community or societal concerns - APPROVED.

B. Subcommittee Reports

- **ARTS (Doug reporting)**
GAME 101 – ARTS – recommend for approval – APPROVED.

IV. Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.