Gen Ed Committee Meeting

January 27, 2011

2:00 p.m.

Graduate School Conference Room

Present: Sue McLarry (NHP); Lynita Cooksey (AVCAA); Rick Clifft (Engr); Phyllis Pobst (HSS);David Levenbach (HSS); Dan Marburger (BUS); Tom Adams (Ed); Tanja McKay (SCOM); Dale Miller (FA); Jerry Ball (HSS);Josie Welsh (Assessment); Jill Simons (UC); Chris Collins (Secretary – AAR); Jeff Helms (Military Science)

Absent: Bill Humphrey (AG); Rebecca Oliver (Honors); Marci Hayes (COM); Jeff Jenness (SCOM)

Meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Sue McLarry, Chair of Gen Ed Committee.

Minutes were reviewed by committee. Motion was made by Phyllis Pobst to approve minutes as is with the exception of showing Dale Miller as present for the meeting. Second made by Jerry Ball. Motion carried, minutes approved.

Goal #4 and #10 will need to go through the shared governance process. Need to write a proposal to delete these due to no courses. Sue McLarry will write the proposal for shared governance for the next meeting.

Intro to Psychology – Request from Dept. of Psychology to move Intro to Psychology to the Science goal. Goal #7 – “Developing a strong foundation in the social sciences” is the current goal and placement for Psychology. Psychology is identified as a Social Science gen ed course with ADHE. Psychology does not belong in the science goal as it does not have a lab and does not meet the ADHE requirement for science courses with a lab. The committee discussed this in length and decided Psychology does not meet the qualification to be moved to the Science goal.

Evaluation of Gen Ed courses – how are we going to evaluate in relation to the outcomes we have? Discussion followed.

Josie Welsh discussed the Webinar for TracDat 4.3 that will be held next Friday at 8:00 a.m. Josie discussed that the first assessment would be Writing and Critical Thinking. Faculty will submit writing assignment. The faculty will review assignments over the summer based on a rubric. I-criterian Test or I-write test on critical thinking and writing skills – rates and gets scores. Phone in at 8:00 a.m. for webinar. Josie gives names of people who want to participate and they are sent an email with the number to phone in. Phyllis Pobst and Jerry Ball have taught Gen Ed courses. Sue asked what they thought about meeting the outcomes. ENG – papers evaluated by people in English and HIST – pre-test and post-test. Sue asked if we should send a Format to colleges for Gen Ed courses. Type in outcomes and how they came to the outcome. David Levenbach commented that some are receiving mixed messages. Are we interested in mastery or value-added? Test – measurement of student competence to goal. Josie commented

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that ETS says it is hard to measure value-added. Science & Mathematics – labs are taught by TA – lectures by Faculty. BIOL-pre-test and post-test – looking at mastery. Phyllis Pobst commented that on pre and post tests if students pre-test with an “A”, then that counts against her but, if we measure mastery – it doesn’t count against her. Economics – measure mastery of outcomes. Jill Simons – Writing and Critical Thinking needs to come from all pieces – not just Comp I and Comp II. Competence of the course. Courses assessed every three years.

Consensus

1. Are we going to require competence or value added? COMPETENCE
2. Mandate how departments are going to measure or leave it up to them? LEAVE IT UP TO THEM BUT PRESENT PLAN TO COMMITTEE

2/15 – college plan due

3/15 – overall Gen Ed Assessment Plan due

Data collected this semester – report due next fall

Have plan from everyone

David Levenbach suggested the tri-annual review of Gen Ed courses be revised. There will be eight goals after #4 & #10 are removed. Two goals to review a year/courses reviewed. Request through Shared Governance that courses will be reviewed every four years.

Josie commented that HLC will be moving to every 10 years to every 4 years after 2012.

Students competent in course outcome

How did you measure – feedback of exit data – Pass/Fail

Course Goal – this is how it is being measured – give to Gen Ed Committee

Josie – send ENG I and ENG II, Communicating Effectively and Critical Thinking to Gen Ed Committee what they’re doing. Syllabi/Template

Sue asked if the committee wanted to meet every week and get finished or meet every other week until finished. Committee indicated that they would like to meet every week so we can get finished.

Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 3, 2011 from 2:00-4:00 p.m. in the Graduate School Conference Room.

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1. Some direct measure of competence of the outcome under the goal communicating effectively and critical thinking.
2. Shared Governance proposal
3. Format

Josie to prepare template and bring to next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Submitted by:

Chris Collins

Assistant to AVCAS