**Gen Ed Committee Meeting**

**November 15, 2011**

**2:00 p.m.**

**Kathy Brittain White Conference Room - DCED**

Present: Sue McLarry (NHP); Lynita Cooksey (AVCAA); Bill Humphrey (AG); Dan Marburger (BUS); Myleea Hill (COM); Rick Clifft (Engineering); Rebecca Oliver (Honors); Jerry Ball (HSS); David Levenbach (HSS); Phyllis Pobst (HSS); Chris Collins (Secretary – AAR)

Absent: Josie Welsh Assessment); Lance Bryant (ED); Temma Balducci (FA); Timothy Norman (Military Science); Cecil Clark (Military Science); Jeff Jenness (SCOM); Tanja McKay (SCOM); Jill Simons (University College)

Guests: Paul Armah, Clint Relyea, Gauri Guha

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

**Health & Wellness Letter**

The Health & Wellness letter was reviewed and discussed by the committee. The term “co-curricular” received much discussion. Sue McLarry shared that the term “co-curricular” in the last paragraph of the General Education proposal sent to the SGOC required the proposal to be routed to Staff Senate. The following modifications to the letter were made:

1. Punctuation in the 9th line in the second paragraph was corrected. A comma was added after “areas” and “Global Issues”.
2. In the last line of the last paragraph the word “co-curricular” was eliminated and “as part of their college experience” was inserted at the end of the line.

Bill Humphrey moved to send the Health & Wellness Letter forward as modified. Jerry Ball seconded. Vote: Unanimous

The letter will be sent to Interim Chancellor, Dr. Dan Howard and copy to Interim Executive Vice Chancellor & Provost, Dr. Glen Jones.

**Presentations:**

Dr. Paul Armah presented information on the course Feeding the Planet related to the Social Sciences category. Dr. Clint Relyea presented information on the course Global Challenge related to the Social Sciences category.

Dr. Paul Armah - AGRI 2243 Feeding the Planet

Dr. Armah discussed the above course with the committee and indicated that this course encompasses the following social science disciplines; history, anthropology, economics, political science, sociology, geography, government, law, and international relations. After his presentation, the committee asked questions regarding this course.

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Dr. Armah was asked about the definition that social science is an umbrella term and its meaning. He indicated this was a definition from the web. He was also asked why a textbook was not required and Dr. Armah indicated that there was not a textbook because none was currently available that would cover everything. He is currently developing a manual for the class. He does require reading assignments from other sources pertaining to the course. Dr. Armah was asked to provide the reading assignments to the committee.

Dr. Clint Relyea – IB1013 The Global Challenge

Dr. Relyea discussed the above course with the committee and indicated that he felt that this course encompasses how a student’s role in society affected other people. He indicated that they are using the Byrd & Osland Model. This course teaches students to ask themselves what they are going to do to make the world better and learn how to be a global citizen. This course gives them opportunities to understand the world outside Northeast Arkansas.

Dr. Gauri Guha spoke to the committee regarding this course as well. He indicated that he was the Chair of the College of Business Curriculum Committee (and the UCC rep for the COB) when this course was approved. He said that his committee’s consensus view was that this course dealt with socio-economic issues associated with globalization. He also said that the International Business Resource Center (COB) received 3 Title VI “Business and International Education (BIE)” grants from the Department of Education, in which students travel abroad and undertake social responsibility projects. The BIE administrators and reviewers encourage grantees to update their IB programs by creating new courses. They have appreciated ASU’s *The Global Challenge* as unique, and it is held as an example for other grantees.

Dr. Guha stated there were four points he wished to make regarding the Global Challenge course:

1. COB faculty feel that it presents the socio-economic dynamics of globalization
2. “Forces of Social Change” is what drives social research, and this course deals with the most powerful force – globalization of business
3. Impact – this course makes the biggest difference in the student’s life, as testified by each and every student that he has advised recently
4. *“Choice and flexibility of curriculum*” is what attracts most people (like himself for doctoral studies, and now his daughter who is a college freshman) to the US Education system. Hence, removing an important contemporary “choice” like *The Global Challenge* will hurt the students.

The committee then asked questions regarding this course. David Levenbach asked - In reference to the themes of the course and making the world better – how is this measured at assessment time? Dr. Relyea indicated that they are doing a pre-test and post-test of the student’s perspective or measure their awareness of the world.

Phyllis Pobst moved to adjourn. Motion to adjourn was unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

Submitted by:

Chris Collins

Assistant to AVCAS