

**General Education Meeting**  
**September 10, 2012**  
**10:00am-12:00pm**  
**President's Conference Room (WH-444)**  
**Minutes**

**Present:** Tracey Haney, Pat Kalayjian, Debbie Best, Lorna Fitzsimmons, LaTanya Skiffer, Cynthia Turner, Peter Kim, Tom Philo, Kaye Bragg, Marek Suchenek, Linda Goldman, Pam Krochalk, Jim Hill, Ken Ganezer, Angel Pu, Ivonne Heinze Balcazar, Mitch Maki

**1. Call to Order:** 10:13am

- a. J. Hill, Academic Senate Chair- Stated that in common practice the last committee chair heads the first meeting of the next term if a new chair was not elected. However due to some confusion, it was decided that since GE is a reporting committee to the Academic Senate, as Senate Chair, he would oversee the first GE meeting. When GE elects a Chair, he will move aside.
  - i. Stated he was there to make suggestions only and noted that he was missing his daughter's pediatrician appointment to be in attendance.

**2. Introduction of Committee and Membership**

- a. L. Skiffer- Confirmed she is serving the 1<sup>st</sup> year of 2<sup>nd</sup> term for 2012-2014.
- b. CBAPP representative E. Kulikov was not able to finish her term. She informed L. Fitzsimmons that J. Badrtalei has volunteered to replace her. CBAPP needs to hold an election to select the representative.
- c. School of Education is going to hold an election to select a representative.

**3. Approval of Agenda**

- a. M. Maki drafted a proposed agenda; it was distributed to the GEC.
  - i. Motion to approve the agenda.
- b. P. Kalayjian- asked if the committee was going to address the topic of removal of upper division GE by the Chancellor's Office.
  - i. Motion to add that topic of discussion to the agenda. Seconded. M/S/P
- c. Motion to add 10:30am time certain from Computer Science chair Mohsen Beheshti to discuss STAR Act proposal. Seconded. M/S/P
- d. Motion to move approval of the April 23, 2012 minutes to next GE meeting. Seconded. M/S/P
- e. M. Suchenek moved to approve the agenda with the 3 changes. L. Goldman seconded. M/S/P
  - i. Revised agenda approved.

#### **4. Election of GE Committee Chair**

- a. J. Hill- Offered suggestions for proceeding with the election of a GEC chair. Elections could be held at the next meeting or conducted electronically by independent voting. Mary Brooks of Academic Senate office can assist with this process.
- b. K. Ganezer- Gave a recap stating L. Fitzsimmons was sick and not able to attend the last meeting so the agenda was not followed.
- c. M. Suchenek- Commented on the remark about issue with chair not being elected at the last meeting. There is an advantage to electing a new chair at start of the first meeting of next year because of new people coming to the committee.
  - i. As for the form of election, generally in a sense of tradition they do things a certain way. They are time tested and they work. Suggested the election be held by secret ballot, the way they have done it in the past.
- d. P. Kalayjian-She is a new member of the committee and respects tradition of GE and their ways. Suggested that those interested in the position write a brief statement and that the committee do an electronic election.

#### **5. Computer Science STAR Act proposal- M. Beheshti, Department Chair (10:30am Time Certain)**

- a. M. Beheshti- Computer Science program needs to be within 120 units to be in compliance with the STAR Act. Department is proposing CSC 301 Computer and Society be double counted as the SMT requirement.
  - i. The current course objectives address ethical issues in society in relation to technology.
- b. P. Kalayjian asked if other students would be able to take course.
  - i. M. Beheshti- Yes, but the double count could only apply to Computer Science majors.
- c. K. Ganezer- double counting of the course may be considered but as SMT Chair, question has come up that other students outside the major may want to use the course to double count for GE.
- d. D. Best- Proposed this goes to the SMT subcommittee for review.
  - i. Motion to forward proposal to GE SMT subcommittee for review. P. Kalayjian seconded.
- e. P. Krochalk- Informed M. Beheshti, the subcommittee makes recommendations only and is not a deciding body.
- f. K. Ganezer- The course is supposed to be cross disciplinary and be in agreement with the SMT objectives.
- g. M. Suchenek- Commented that he has been teaching this course for the past 10 years. It measures the maturity of students in computer science and covers loopholes in student's education.



- i. Some issues can be pushed though. The practice is not intended to bind hands; intended to be more thoughtful to university.
- c. J. Hill- As an outsider's comment, this formalizes things. The procedure helps push through issues quickly.
- d. M. Suchenek - In past there have been more than two readings on some issues. Some linger for a semester.
  - i. L. Fitzsimmons - There's a motion on the floor for GEC to think about the topics and return to it next time. Seconded.
  - ii. M. Maki- will craft language to next meeting. The Provost office will bring to GEC. M/S/P
  - iii. Approved

#### **8. GE Committee Membership- Staggered Terms**

- a. M. Maki- Conceptually, there is a 10/4 split the way terms are staggered now; we need to make it 7/7. Can ask the people who are in term 2010-2012 to extend their term 1 year.
  - i. M. Suchenek motion to hold it. Second.
- b. T. Haney- will send out the roster as it is now. Committee members can review and people will have to consider if they will extend their term one year.
  - i. Motion to defer to next time. Seconded. Approved.

#### **9. GE Committee Charge Amendments- Inclusion of an Academic Dean**

- a. M. Maki- proposing to include an academic dean as a voting member on the GE Committee. GE has fiscal and administrative implications. Shared governance.
- b. D. Best asked if other CSU's have deans on their GE committees.
  - i. J. Hill- 2 do; 9 don't. He got the information this week.
- c. L. Fitzsimmons - this is not standard practice on other campuses.
  - i. M. Maki - other committees on our campus do have deans- University Curriculum Committee, Program Review Panel have academic deans as voting members. It is standard practice for our university.
- d. P. Krochalk asked if other curricular committees have deans.
  - i. M. Maki- Yes, University Curriculum Committee which is the curricular committee for the university and Program Review Panel have academic deans.
  - ii. M. Suchenek - moved to make it congruent that the committee is given time until next meeting for this topic. D. Best seconded.
- e. J. Hill – Noted that this would be a change in the charge and reminded new GEC members, the charge would need to be approved by Academic Senate.

- f. P. Krochalk – Questioned why the dean had to be a voting member and commented that a dean as non-voting would not be controversial. They could give advice to the committee.
  - i. M. Maki- The dean’s vote would be 1 out of 15 voting members and does not tilt the scales. The importance reflects administration of shared governance. The fiscal impact of curriculum on colleges and the university and ramifications beyond pedagogy.
- g. M. Suchenek – Expressed his opinion that he does not want to see any ex-officio, non-elected members to be voting members. Electing a dean.
- h. L. Fitzsimmons - there’s a motion to defer until next meeting. Seconded. M/S/P Approved

#### **10. Chancellor’s Office Elimination of Upper Division General Education**

- a. P. Kalayjian - Statewide Senator. It was on the agenda with no advanced notice for the CO to eliminate upper division GE.
  - i. This proposal was driven by high unit majors: Nursing, business, engineering, and art. That’s where the reduction would be. This is related to the STAR Act.
- b. Asked L. Fitzsimmons to draft a paragraph in defense of upper division GE stating philosophical, practical, pedagogical point of views. Academic Senate could endorse the statement and it would then be passed on to the GE Board of Trustees. P. Kalayjian will share samples of supporting statements.
  - i. GE Advisory Committee meets Wednesday. Have a statement for them by then.
- c. D. Best- Moved to have L. Fitzsimmons draft letter in defense for our general education with P. Kalayjian’ s help to speak for our General Education Committee and have it presented to our Academic Senate and GE Advisory Committee. Seconded.
  - i. Approved

#### **11. Adjourn: 11:49am**