

General Education Committee

Minutes- Revised

October 24, 2011

10:00am-12:00pm

Provost's Conference Room (WH 442)

Present: LaTanya Skiffer, Sheela Pawar, Lisa Hutton, Marek Suchenek, Merry Eyman, Elena Kulikov, Emily Magruder, Cynthia Turner, Lorna Fitzsimmons, Debra Best, Carol Dales

Absent: Pam Krochalk, Dana Belu, Ken Ganezer, Ivonne Heinze-Balcazar, Janna Bersi, Brandy McLelland

1. **Call to Order:** 10:10am
2. **Approval of Agenda**
 - a. M. Suchenek moved to approve. L. Skiffer seconded. M/S/P
 - b. Agenda approved
3. **Approval of Minutes**
 - a. **September 26, 2011 Minutes**
 - i. M. Suchenek moved to approve. E. Kulikov seconded. M/S/P
 - ii. Minutes approved
 - b. **October 10, 2011 Minutes**
 - c. L. Fitzsimmons- Item #4- Announcements. Revise second sentence, "L. Fitzsimmons stated that Area A plus the other areas scheduled for review this year, minus those that have been assessed in the last 5 years will be reviewed and are required to submit data."
 - i. M. Suchenek moved to approve as amended. D. Best seconded. M/S/P
 - ii. Minutes approved as amended.

Old Business

1. **Area A2.1 Catalog Description- M. Suchenek**
 - a. M. Suchenek presented the proposed revisions to the complete text of the General Education catalog description.
 - b. Suggested catalog corrections include:
 - i. The use of "shall" instead of "should," if appropriate, for better interpretation. The use of "should" has various interpretations by some faculty members which has been an issue of concern.
 - ii. A1. Objectives for Basic Skills in Composition. Propose to add phrase in 1st sentence which is an exact quote from Chancellor's Office EO 1065.

- iii. A2. Objectives for Basic Skills in Logic/Critical Reasoning. Propose to add modification to item 1; verbatim quote from EO 1065.
- iv. B4. Objectives for Basic Skills in Quantitative Reasoning. Propose the addition of a clause; verbatim quote from EO 1065.
- v. C. Objectives for the Area of the Humanities. Addition of 2 sentences; almost an exact quote from EO 1065.
 - 1. Suggested revisions are all based on discrepancies he found.

2. Proposed changes in catalog format:

- i. A1. Objectives for Basic Skills in Composition
Students who complete the Basic Skills requirement in Composition **shall develop proficiency in oral and written communication in English [comment: EO-1065 language]. In particular, they shall** ~~should~~ be able to:
- ii. A2. Objectives for Basic Skills in Logic/Critical Reasoning
Students who complete the Basic Skills requirement in Logic/Critical Reasoning **shall** ~~should~~ be able to:
 - 1. understand basic logic **and its relation to language [comment: EO-1065 language]**; elementary inductive and deductive process, including an understanding of the fallacies of language and thought;
- iii. A3. Objectives for Basic Skills in Oral Communication
Students who complete the Basic Skills requirement in Oral Communication **shall** ~~should~~ be able to:
- iv. A4. Objectives for Basic Library Skills (optional)
Students who complete the Basic Skills requirement in Library Skills **shall** ~~should~~ be able to:
- v. B1. Objectives for Physical Science
Students who complete the Natural Science in Physical Science requirement **shall** ~~should~~ be able to:
- vi. B2. Objectives for Natural Sciences in Life Science
Students who complete the Natural Science in Life Science requirement **shall** ~~should~~ be able to:
- vii. B3. Objectives for Natural Sciences in Science Laboratory
Students who complete the Natural Science in Science Laboratory requirement **shall** ~~should~~ be able to:
- viii. B4. Objectives for Basic Skills in Quantitative Reasoning
Students who complete the Basic Skills requirement in Quantitative Reasoning and Problem Solving **shall** ~~should~~ be able to read and understand mathematical arguments and data, and use mathematics effectively to analyze and solve problems that arise in ordinary and professional life. **They shall develop skills and understanding beyond the level of**

intermediate algebra. [comment: EO-1065 language] In particular, students shall should:

- ix. C. Objectives for the Area of the Humanities
The units in Area C are distributed among Humanities, Arts (Art, Cinema, Dance, Music, Theater), Literature, Philosophy, and foreign languages. Ethnic Studies, Gender Studies, or history courses may be categorized in Area C if they emphasize artistic or humanistic perspectives. [comment: EO-1065 language]
- The 9 semester unit package of courses listed under program requirements has been designed so that students completing these courses will meet the above 5 6 objectives. At the same time the package offers the student an opportunity for some individual choice in course selection.
- x. D1. Category 1 Objectives: Individual Perspectives, Groups and Society
On completing a course in this category a student shall should be able to demonstrate an understanding of the:
- xi. D2. Category 2 Objectives: Global and Historical Perspectives
On completing a course in this category a student shall should be able to demonstrate an:
- xii. D3. Category 3 Objectives: U. S. History Perspectives
On completing the course in this category a student shall should be able to demonstrate a knowledge of American History, including the study of ideals, creeds, institutions and behaviors of the peoples of the United States.
- xiii. D4. Category 4 Objectives: U. S. and California Government
On completing the course in this category a student shall should be able to demonstrate knowledge of the Constitution of the United States including the study of American institutions and ideals, and the principles of state and local government established under the Constitution of the state of California.
- xiv. E. Objectives for Lifelong Learning and Self-Development
Students who complete the Lifelong Learning and Self-Development requirement shall should be able to:
- xv. F1. Objectives for Integrative Studies in the Humanities
Students who complete the requirement for Integrative Studies in the Humanities shall should be able to:
- xvi. F2. Objectives for Integrative Studies in the Natural Sciences
Students who complete the requirement for Integrative Studies in the Natural Sciences shall should be able to:
- xvii. F4. Objectives for Integrative Studies
Students who complete the requirement for Integrative Studies shall should be able to:

xviii. G. Objectives for Integrative Studies in Cultural Pluralism

Students who complete the requirement for Integrative Studies in the Cultural Pluralism ~~shall~~ should be able to:

3. Discussion

- a. E. Magruder- committee should discuss the philosophical difference between the two words.
 - i. "Shall" has assertiveness over "should." Consider what the two words mean, the differences in their meaning in relation to what the document should reflect.
 - b. S. Pawar- questioned if the objectives listed in the catalog are the minimum requirements; objectives that a D student meets.
 - c. E. Magruder- Determining what the document is used for can help better decide the impact. Does the change in wording impact student or professor evaluation?
 - d. M. Eyman- Wording of EO 1065A- "students will..."; "shall". This language is stronger than "should."
 - e. S. Pawar- Unreasonable to read "will understand logic..." for Critical Thinking area.
 - i. Understand the relationship between language and logic; "the" relationship vs. "a" relationship has different meanings.
 - ii. There seems to be no consideration for the discipline at the time the outcomes were written.
 - f. L. Fitzsimmons - "Will" makes us in compliance with the EO document.
 - i. M. Eyman- The University's wording does not have to be in compliance with the EO; we have the flexibility to change the wording to fit each discipline.
 - g. S. Pawar - USLOAC uses wording: "successful students will..."
 - h. M. Suchenek - Accreditation documentation uses "will" or "shall" to pertain to those who pass the course.
 - i. Motion to insert "will" rather than "shall" universally to standardize the language.
 - i. M/S/P- 1 abstention
4. L. Fitzsimmons will contact department chairs in the respective units are Area A2 (Philosophy, Psychology) , Area B4 (Math) and Area C (departments in Arts and Humanities)
- a. Department chairs will be informed of the proposed revisions and invited to the next meeting or give feedback via email.

- b. If no response or objection is received, committee will assume approval of revisions.
- c. Motion to contact respective units, inform them of proposed changes and invite them to next GE meeting for discussion or option to send email commentary.
 - i. M/S/P

New Business

- 1. General Education Committee Charge- L. Fitzsimmons presented a draft of the GE Charge reflecting revisions highlighted in yellow including:
 - a. The accountability of GE to according to the Academic Senate Resolution. The added statement is directly quoted from AS document.

General Education Committee

(Supersedes AAAP010.001)

CHARGE

The Committee initiates and/or approves proposals for curricular modification, conducts periodic area-by-area program review as well as student learning outcomes assessment and program assessment in accord with CSUDH policies for such procedures, and implements policies governing the program as a whole. The General Education Committee is a standing committee of the CSUDH Academic Senate. The Chair of the Committee reports on the Committee’s activities to the Academic Senate during its regularly scheduled meetings at the request of the Chair of the Academic Senate. While decisions of the Committee are normally final, under extraordinary circumstances they may be referred by the Academic Senate to the Educational Policy Committee for adjudication.¹

¹ Examples of “extraordinary circumstances” include, but are not limited to, decisions made contrary to normal procedures; decisions that are arbitrary, unreasonable, prejudiced or capricious; and decisions involving conflicts of interest. The burden of proof that the decision was incorrect lies with the party making the appeal. Errors in procedure will normally be remanded back to the committee for reconsideration.

- b. Panel Membership- Update College titles to make them current.

PANEL MEMBERSHIP

The membership of GEC shall be comprised as follows:

Voting Members:

- 1 Academic Senate appointment
- 1 Student representative
- 1 Faculty member each from the Colleges of Arts and Humanities, Natural and Behavioral Sciences, and Business Administration and Public Policy.

- i. S. Pawar – The College of Profession Studies was left out; needs to be added.

□ □ 1 Faculty member from the “social sciences” elected by the faculty of Anthropology, Computer Science, Economics, Political Science, Psychology, and Sociology Departments. The Dean of the College of Business Administration and Public Policy is charged with the responsibility for conducting this election.

- i. The dean of the College of Business Administration and Public Policy is no longer responsible for conducting the election for “social sciences.” The Dean of the College of Natural and Behavioral Sciences is now charged to conduct the election.
- ii. E. Kulikov- Proposed to remove Economics because it is no longer a department. L. Fitzsimmons will verify this information.

□ □ 1 Faculty member from the “natural sciences” elected by the faculty of Biology, Chemistry and Biochemistry, Earth and Environment, Mathematics, Pre-Health Professional Programs, and Physics Departments. The Dean of the College of Natural and Behavioral Sciences is charged with the responsibility for conducting this election.

- i. M. Suchenek – Proposed Computer Science be included under “natural sciences” basic skills area.

□ □ 1 Faculty member from the “arts and humanities” elected by the faculty from Africana Studies, Art, Asian Pacific Studies, Chicano/a Studies, Communications, Dance, Digital Media Arts, English, Modern languages, History, Humanities, Interdisciplinary Studies, Labor Studies, Music, Negotiation, Conflict Resolution and Peacebuilding, Philosophy, and Theater Arts, and Women’s Studies. The Dean of the College of Arts and Humanities is charged with the responsibility for conducting this election.

- i. History should be under the area of “social sciences” not “arts and humanities.” The department is in the College of Arts and Humanities, but falls under the social sciences area of GE.

□ □ Chairs/coordinators of Area F subcommittees (Humanities, Natural Sciences, and Social and Behavioral Sciences)

Ex-officio (non-voting) Members:

- 1 University Library representative
- Director, University Advising Center
- Coordinator, Liberal Studies Program
- 1 Representative appointed by the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
- Staff support will be provided by Academic Programs

- i. C. Turner- Question if the Registrar should added as an Ex-officio member. She currently attends as proxy for Brandy McLelland/Registrar. She is willing to attend as the Articulation Officer.

- ii. L. Fitzsimmons - will verify representation of Economics and Registrar.
2. M. Suchenek - feels the GE chair should be a tenured track faculty member.
 - a. L. Hutton- younger faculty need an opportunity to serve the university; the entire committee makes decisions and recommendations, not only the chair.
 - b. E. Magruder- concerned that this may limit the pool of eligible faculty to serve if they are required to be tenure track.
 - c. S. Pawar- There is some cases the chair does not have to be tenured. Consider including some language that the faculty is “preferably” tenured.
 - d. D. Best- It is important to protect junior faculty by not limiting their opportunity to participate.
 3. L. Fitzsimmons will make corrections and update the proposed changes to the GE charge:
 - a. Add College of Profession Studies’
 - b. Dean of CNBS charged with conducting election for social sciences;
 - c. Move Computer Science under natural sciences;
 - d. Move History under social sciences;
 - e. Motion to go forward- M. Suchenek moved to go forward with the listed changes. D. Best seconded. M/S/P
 - f. Approved

Announcements

1. M. Suchenek - Academic Senate passed a resolution last Wednesday that would instruct UCC to not approve any waivers for the American Institution requirement.

Adjourn: 11:05am