General Education Curriculum Committee
March 12, 2015
3124 WSW 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Present: Roy Barnes, Elizabeth Collardey, Kyle Manley, Barbara Hollie

In absence of GECC chair, Barnes called the meeting to order at 2:00pm.

1. Review of February 26, 2015 minutes (see GECC website). Deferred until next meeting, April 9th.

2. Updates
   a. Shan sent via email GECC’s response to the Faculty Council request for corrections to the Faculty Code.
   b. UNV 100--FYE course updates:
      - Reimagining the City; Science, Education and Society; Food and Culture; Tales from the Dark Side. Hollie and Collardey will provide Roy Barnes updates about the status of these UNV courses from their respective units’ curriculum committees. Barnes informed GECC that Chancellor Borrego will be strict in adhering to course schedule deadlines to support student registration. In other words, the Chancellor will not be in favor of changes made to the schedule after it is published.

3. Review of new proposed GE courses (GECC website). None

4. Review of non-equivalent courses (check GECC website)
   Alireza Mirahmadi, FQ. Barnes informed GECC that this student’s narrative was inadvertently omitted from the website. Barnes will send to GECC via email this student’s narrative along with Madison Thompson’s materials which were not available on the GECC Blackboard site at the time of the meeting. Barnes will ask GECC members to approve/disapprove thee students’ petitions via email.

5. Collardey and Hollie summarized for Barnes last meeting’s discussion around the need to clarify the process and communication flow specifying positions of who is responsible at each phase for acting or moving courses forward. Barnes agreed that the process is complicated. There is an assumption that the Registrar, Stacy Lee in particular, does communicate with all parties. GECC anticipates this issue could emerge during the GECC Forum.

6. GE Forum. In light that Parker may not be able to attend the governing Faculty meeting next Thursday, March 19th from 2-4pm to provide a brief 10-15 minute summary of the GE survey, GECC will ask Dr. Cathy Miller if she is available and willing to be the alternate GECC representative and present at the governing faculty meeting. Either Parker or Miller will present a one-page summary (provided by Roy) of the Faculty Survey Results at the University Governing Faculty meeting. The forum has been rescheduled for Thursday, March 26th, 2015, from 2-3:30pm. Roy will confirm the location. Roy will also send out an announcement about the GE Forum.
Roy has begun to draft the one-page handout for the Governing Faculty meeting. Manley and Collardey will provide Barnes a one paragraph summary for that handout no later than this weekend. The handout will also inform faculty that detailed data tables will be available at the GE Forum.

7. SHPS Course Approval Guidelines Review consistent with Gen Ed requirements. Hollie and Collardey attempted to explain to Barnes that SHPS is concerned about whether or not they are reviewing GenEd courses with the same interpretation of the requirements as GECC’s interpretation. Specifically, the 2 requirements: multidisciplinary and civic engagement seem to have different interpretations. SHPS wants to be consistent with GECC and align its review guidelines.

Barnes referred to the FYE Guideline/Course Parameters document on the webpage. According to Barnes, GECC has been following these interpretations for FYE course review:

“Multidisciplinary” outcome can be achieved through several approaches/methodologies including if a single instructor teaches a course that includes materials from several different disciplines.

Barnes stated that the “civic engagement” outcome is broad. Referring to the guidelines, Barnes believes that GECC’s interpretation is more towards the application of knowledge to complex issues versus community-based serving learning. One reason for the broad interpretation is the need for FYE courses. Barnes reminded GECC that if GECC imposed very rigid and narrow interpretations, very few FYE courses would meet criteria.

8. Matters Arising. None

Barnes adjourned the meeting at 3:00pm.

Reminder: Governing Faculty meeting is next Thursday, 2-4pm. GECC representative will be presenting results from surveys evaluating GE and encouraging faculty to attend the GE Forum.

Reminder: GE Forum is scheduled for Thursday, March 26th, from 2-3:30pm. Tuscola Rooms, WSW

Next GECC meeting: Thursday, April 9, 2015, 2:00-3:30pm, WSW building #3124, PHHS Conference Room.

Respectfully submitted by your “What winter Break? We had a winter break?” note taker.
Elizabeth K. Collardey