

General Education Advisory Council

Friday, November 20, 2020

10:00 am -12:00 noon via Zoom

Meeting Minutes

Present: Professor Tim Bishop, Dr. Rebecca Harris (Chair), Mr. Andrae Jones (Ex-Officio), Professor Margaret Kruger, Dr. Monica Krupinski, Professor George Menacheril, Professor Randy Moffett, Dr. Katie Paschall, Professor Dani Peterson, Dr. Kelly Roy, Dr. Mary Ellen Schultz, Dr. Deborah Teed (Ex-Officio), Professor William Van Glabek

I. The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Dr. Harris. A motion was made by Professor Menacheril and seconded by Professor Van Glabek to approve the Minutes of the October 16th meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

II. Updates

A. Professor Ransford updated the group on the One Book One College (OBOC) initiative. The top two books will be identified as the selections for the next two years. Selections have been narrowed to three books. The committee is reading them currently and will make a decision shortly.

B. Dr. Rebecca Harris, Co-Chair of the QEP, shared information on the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP). Proposals include a 3 credit capstone course in the AA.

C. Dr. Roy reported that the new Director of the Teaching and Learning Center, Ms. Gloria Kitchen, will hold a Coffee & Chat. Funds remain available for conference attendance.

III. Membership

Dr. Harris reported that the Faculty Senate Executive Committee has indicated that the GEAC has the smallest roster of all standing committees. Proportional representation was suggested to include additional representatives from the School of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, as well as the School of Pure and Applied Sciences. One representative from each department will be added.

IV. Curriculum: Course Designation Process and Documents

Dr. Harris, Professor Ransford, Dr. Sheila Seelau, and Dr. Livingstone met to discuss the General Education designation process. Beginning with the 2022 academic year, the GEAC will review courses prior to them going to the Curriculum Committee. On the third Friday prior to the next Curriculum Committee, the Chair or Vice Chair will provide comments in Curriculog. Dr. Harris reviewed documents to be used. She thanked Professor Ransford for his organization of the process and leadership in its collaborative development. Dean Teed identified the need for clarification of courses designated as writing intensive. Dr. Harris will align the form with the catalog language.

Professor Ransford asked about Part II: Criteria for General Education designation. Dr. Harris reported that the parenthetical statement will be removed and the statement revised. She further explained that the Curriculum Committee will workshop the language and then return it to us for review. We will then forward it to the Provost. An assessment to determine if a course meets the designation will also be included in the procedure to receive the designation. Dr. Harris noted that credit numbers may change as a result of the procedure. There will be no distinction between

General Education core or elective courses. Professor Kruger thanked the committee for their work on the process, especially Professor Ransford.

Mr. Jones reported that there are resulting challenges from how courses are designated and when their designations take effect. Drs. McClinton, DeLuca, Harris, Gilfert, and Mr. Jones met to discuss this and work towards a resolution. Dr. Harris shared the policy that was developed for input. Students will continue to have the option to change catalog year. The document streamlines the process. It was approved by the Council.

V. New Business.

A. At the January meeting we will discuss the General Education video project. Our assignment in preparation is to select one course and faculty member to highlight in a video segment. The course and faculty member should describe, in an exciting and inspiring manner, how and why General Education competencies are met in their course.

B. Professor Ransford asked about whether the full description of the General Education Competencies should be included in syllabi. Dr. Harris indicated that she will discuss this with Dr. Sheila Seelau.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Kelly Roy, Ph. D.