

# General Education Advisory Council

Friday, November 19, 2021

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

ZOOM Meeting: <https://fsw.zoom.us/j/84297808639>

Present – Don Ransford, William Van Glabek, Andrae Jones, Georges Manacheril, Jamie Votraw, Joyce Rollins, Martin McClinton, Mary Schultz, Monica Krupinski, Randy Moffett, Steven Chase, Tim Bishop, Meghan Carlson, Dani Peterson, Brandon Jett

## Minutes

- I. Minutes. The approval of the minutes from the October meeting and the November meeting will be deferred until the January Meeting
- II. Information Items.
  - a. There is an upcoming AAC&U Conference on General Education, Pedagogy, and Assessment. Early registration for this conference is January 10<sup>th</sup>. For those interested, Ransford suggested presenting something on FSW's Capstone or Cornerstone courses, or FSW's pathways initiative. Here is the virtual link:  
<https://www.aacu.org/events/2022-conference-general-education-pedagogy-and-assessment>
  - b. On November 19<sup>th</sup>, Professor Ransford met with Dr. Sheila Seelau (Chair of Curriculum Committee) and Dr. Elijah Pritchett (Chair of the Learning Assessment Committee) to discuss the process of reviewing the course proposals that include general education designations. Currently, Ransford is included in the Curriculog chain. This may not be efficient because he is the one that would ultimately "reject" or "accept" the course change proposal. Once a course proposal is "rejected" that proposal has to re-start at the beginning of the Curriculog chain. Ransford suggests that GEAC be removed from the Curriculog process, and that faculty proposing that their courses have the general education designation obtain GEAC's approval prior to starting the Curriculog process.
  - c. Dr. McClinton gave updates on the QEP/CREATIVE Capstone. The process for selecting faculty to teach the upcoming capstone courses was competitive. There will be three courses taught in the spring semester. Those faculty chosen to teach capstone courses in fall of 2022 will begin in spring 2022. There are around 2000 students graduating per year, so there will be approximately 120 sections. There will be opportunities for many faculty members to be involved.
- III. Action Items.
  - a. Dr. Brandon Jett attended to speak about the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Initiative (DEI). Currently there is an International and Diversity designation. However, there is ambiguity about what it means and what the desired outcomes are for this designation.

- i. Jett proposes that there be two distinct designations, one “International” the other “Diversity”. Currently, there are two distinct groups working on defining these designations and outlining their desired outcomes.
  - ii. Jett’s purpose for coming to GEAC was to find information about who ultimately decides if FSW can do this, how to go about doing it, and to get GEAC’s thoughts on this process.
  - iii. The committee discussion included the following things.
    - 1. Ultimately, this will have to get the approval of several committees (including LAC and Curriculum Committee), but, that the Provost will make the final decision.
    - 2. It may be useful for Jett to find if other institutions have these designations, and how they are defined and assessed.
    - 3. There are several GEAC members who would be interested in working on either the “International” or “Diversity” designations. (Rollins, Krupinski, Bishop, and Ransford voiced interest.)
    - 4. It was suggested that for now, those courses that currently carry the International and Diversity designation continue on, and once any changes to this designation have been approved, those courses can be reassessed to see whether they would fit and “International” or “Diversity” designation (or possibly both).
- b. Dr. McClinton spoke about creating a database for FSW’s syllabi with the goal of efficiently making changes to the locked portions of those syllabi.
  - i. Currently, changes to syllabi must be done by opening each syllabus and making the changes.
  - ii. Creating a database will allow for more efficiency and accessibility for updating syllabi and making any changes.
  - iii. McClinton will continue to explore this process.
  - iv. Ransford suggested adding this item to the GEAC agenda at a future meeting.

#### IV. Updates

- a. Dr. Schultz and Dr. Krupinski gave updates on OBOC. Schultz mentioned that OBOC is finishing up the events for the fall semester and that the group is in process of choosing a new book. Krupinski spoke about the OBOC essay submissions. The group was impressed with the high-level writing of the submissions. A winner was picked and will be announced in the next couple of weeks. The student will win a \$500 prize.

#### V. The meeting adjourned at 11:10 am.