**General Education Advisory Council**

*Friday, February 18th, 2021*

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

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

Present – Don Ransford, William Van Glabek, Steven Chase, George Manacheril, Jamie Votraw, Joyce Rollins, Mary Ellen Schultz, Monica Krupinski, Randy Moffet, Suzanne Biedenbach, Tim Bishop, Rebecca Harris, Angus Cameron, Dani Peterson, Deborah Teed, Martin McClinton, and Brandon Jett

**Minutes**

1. Approval of minutes from the October, November, and January meetings.
   1. Tim Bishop moved to approve the minutes from the three prior meetings.
   2. William Van Glabek seconded the motion.
   3. The motion passed, the minutes were approved.
2. Information Items
   1. Rebecca Harris reported on the QEP – CREATIVE Capstone
      1. There will be five sections offered in the fall. The target enrollment audience are collegiate high-school students, but any students will be able to apply.
      2. Harris welcomes ideas for co-curricular activities to offer in support of this course.
         1. As possible activities, *Encanto* will be shown on the Charlotte campus with a discussion following the showing.
         2. There will possibly be a field-trip to Koreshan with a possible guest speaker (the woman who wrote a book on this historical site).
      3. Members of the council who are participating in the faculty training to teach the capstone reported that the training is engaging and going well.
   2. Don Ransford reported on the Flex General Education Program for A.A. Degrees
      1. The Flex model is now at level team AASPIRE on curriculog (that is to say, near the end of the curriculog process).
      2. The Flex model will be presented at the February meeting of Faculty Senate. This will be the first time that this model is presented to the faculty at large.
   3. Don Ransford updated the council on the ending terms of several faculty members.
      1. Those faculty members whose terms are ending are Dr. Monica Krupinski, Prof. George Manacheril, Prof. Randy Moffet, Prof. Bill Van Glabek, and Prof. Dani Peterson.
      2. If these faculty choose to continue, they should contact Dr. Martin Tawil when he sends out information for availability on standing committees later in the semester.
3. Action Items
   1. Brandon Jett presented on DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) Initiative
      1. Jett presented the working definitions and proposed learning outcomes for the “International” and “Diversity” course designations. (These definitions were updated from the prior GEAC meeting, and had been vetted at by Joe van Gaalen of Team AASPIRE, Elijah Pritchett from LAC, and Heather Olson from the IDEA committee.) Jett mentioned that the goal of the designations is that they clear, actionable, and assessable.
      2. There was some discussion about word choices and word order in the definitions.
      3. One question raised by the council was whether faculty would copy the outcomes to their course syllabi. Jett responded that faculty could incorporate one of more of the learning outcomes to their course syllabi.
      4. Another question raised by the council was about transferability of these designations to other institutions. Jett and McClinton explained that our current designation does not necessarily transfer. Students with the current must make an appeal to the institution where they are transferring.
      5. The council also wondered what the process might look like for the courses that have the current designation if we move forward with the new designations. (The council concluded that this process could be discussed at a later meeting.)
      6. Ransford and the council concluded that the goal of creating clear, actionable, and assessable designations for “International” and “Diversity” courses was reached. Jett can move forward and present these designations to Faculty Senate and Curriculum Committee with the support of the General Education Advisory Council.
   2. Don Ransford presented information on General Education Digital Badges (House Bill 1507; Florida Statues Section 1007.25)
      1. This initiative from the state is to present badges to students for completing certain courses. The reasoning given for these badges is that students can create a portfolio of badges that they have earned during their AS degree that demonstrate that they have acquired certain skills that employers are looking for. These badges would be more marketable for employers. (At the time of the meeting, this initiative was not finalized by the state.)
      2. Suzanne Biedenbach mentioned that she was part of a statewide committee that was working on this initiative. From Biedenbach’s perspective, the state wants schools to be able to “credential” their students with a digital badge once the student has met the criteria for that badge in their course.
      3. The was some discussion about the need for these badges and how these badges might be similar or different to a student’s transcript.
      4. The council concluded that the digital badge initiative would need further consideration from the council (especially if it becomes a requirement from the state).
      5. Ransford concluded that it would be put on the agenda at a future meeting.
   3. Other Business
      1. Some ideas for future meetings would be to review the list of general education courses against the current criteria for a general education course, to think about a process for reviewing courses that have the current International and Diversity designation in moving forward with the new International and Diversity designations, and to further discuss the digital badges.
4. The meeting was adjourned at 10:57 am.