

Minutes of the General Education Committee
Wednesday, February 10, 2010
Hawai'i Hall 208

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:31 p.m. by Chair Scott Rowland.

Present: Ernestine Enomoto, Lynne Higa, Susan Hippensteele (SEC), Mike Nassir, Scott Rowland, Todd Sammons, Galen Sasaki, Mamoru Sato, Carolyn Stephenson

Ex officio: Ron Cambra (OVCAA)

Support staff: Tom Hilgers (GEO), Lisa Fujikawa (GEO), Jo-Anne Nakamoto (GEO Recorder)

Excused: Garrett Inoue (A&R), Steve Rola (A&R)

ACTION AND INFORMATION ITEMS:

1. The minutes of January 27, 2010 were accepted with the following corrections:
 - Action/Information Item #1, removed second bullet item.
 - Action/Information Item #3, first bullet: Addition in *italics*: How many 400-level courses have prerequisites with Same Diversification designation; *how many students satisfy their Diversification requirements with 400-level courses?*
 - Action/Information Item #3, second bullet: reworded to “Motion to vote on decision *deferred*.”
 - Action/Information Item #5: remove gender from narrative (i.e., from “her” to “the student’s”).
 - Action/Information Item #5, first bullet: GEC felt ~~all three~~ none of the Hallmarks were ~~not~~ met. . . .
 - Action/Information Item #6: spell out acronym “UCA” to read “University Council on Articulation”.
 - Action/Information Item #7: spell out acronym “WASC” to read “Western Association of Schools and Colleges”.
2. GEC voted unanimously to approve the following Diversification subcommittee recommendations:
 - AMST 317 – DH
 - ANTH 449 – DS
 - BE 470 – DP

It was noted that the subcommittee did contact MBBE (Molecular Biosciences and Bioengineering) regarding the Diversification requested; DP (not DB) is indeed what they felt was appropriate (as well as what was in line with the rest of their courses). MBBE also stated that they have non-majors registered for their courses, so some students may need the Diversification designation.

Deferred vote on Course-based O-Focus proposal for ITE 343. GEO to contact Course Coordinator to ask for further clarification regarding Hallmarks 2-4.

3. 400-level Diversification
 - GEC is awaiting data from STAR Office (Cambra).
4. “What is FS?” Working Group Update (Nassir)
 - Group has met once, and will meet again tomorrow
 - Mike Nassir and Monica Stitt-Bergh to be co-chairs
 - Some issues discussed:
 - Do students have adequate knowledge and skills when they graduate? Are we meeting WASC criteria?
 - Will we be implementing any changes to the six Hallmarks?
 - Will there be a “Freshman FS” course, or will the current system be left in place?
 - It appears that when students are urged to take FS courses early in their college careers, it serves everyone well/best. Do we start enforcing sanctions?
 - Are smaller courses better?
 - Nassir stated that they will focus on the GEC’s charge to the group.
5. Chair’s notes:
 - Mike Nassir was asked to serve as the GEC Liaison to UHM’s Arts & Sciences Education Policy and Planning Committee. Polled the GEC; consensus was yes, we’d like to “appoint” Mike to this position.
 - Rowland was asked to serve on the UHM Retention Committee but is unable to serve; Todd Sammons will serve on this Committee.
6. Discussion – Unresolved course-based Focus designations and “transfer” of instructor “approved for Focus” from one campus to another.
 - It was noted that Hallmarks don’t change between campuses.
 - Currently, the question is if a professor has approval to teach a Focus course at another System campus and then comes to teach the same course at UHM, does he/she have to submit a new UHM proposal for the same course to GEO? Or is a UHM proposal unnecessary because the same criteria are being applied across the System?
 - Further discussion and any action/recommendation were postponed until the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 2:39 p.m.

Next meeting: February 24, 2010, 1:30 p.m., HH 208.

Submitted by Jo-Anne Nakamoto, Recorder