

## Minutes of the General Education Committee

March 28, 2016

Hawaii Hall 309

The meeting was called to order at 3:16 p.m.

Present: Hokulani Aikau, Miguel Felipe, Dore Minatodani, Mike Nassir, Kapa Oliveira (on speakerphone), Maria Stewart, Ryan Yamaguchi

GEO Staff: Vicky Keough, Wendi Vincent

Excused: Ron Cambra, Kaitlyn Conner, Lisa Fujikawa, Alyssa Kapaona, Bonnyjean Manini, Kiana Shiroma, Nori Tarui

### 1. Action Items

- The **February 22, 2016 GEC meeting minutes** were approved with a vote of 5-0-0 with the following changes to be made under Interpretation and Application of Hallmarks: 1) Edit the first line to read, "Several GEC liaisons have noticed that there are inconsistencies in the interpretation and application of hallmarks by the boards from year to year;" 2) Delete the passage that Lisa highlighted.
  - It was also suggested that GEO reach out to the HAP Board regarding online and courses and hallmarks.
- The **course-based E Focus request for E for ECON 358** was approved by a vote of 5-0-0.
- The **course-based E Focus request for E for EE 495** was approved by a vote of 5-0-0.
- The **course-based E Focus request for E for KRS 395** was not approved by a vote of 5-0-0. There was concern about the inherency of ethical content and two very different syllabi that were provided. The first syllabus seemed fine, although it did not appear to have a schedule. The second syllabus that was provided showed E content at the 8<sup>th</sup> week, which seemed to be a bit weak. It was agreed that the GEC would request more information for the second syllabus, if there is more information that shows how the E is reflected in the course. An alternative would be for them to submit a master syllabus that shows shared content (texts, readings, frameworks) that demonstrates the inherency of the E regardless of the instructor. It should also be confirmed who the course coordinator will be, as this person should be engaged in this process. The GEC voted not to approve the request at this time, and will ask that the department submit the revised materials by April 4.
- The **course-based E Focus request for O for COMG 351** was approved by a vote of 5-0-0.
- The **course-based E Focus request for O for JPN 420** was approved by a vote of 5-0-0. When it was determined that the course coordinator was indeed a faculty member and not a graduate student, the committee voted to approve.
- The **course-based E Focus request for W for KRS 354L** was approved by a vote of 5-0-0, with confirmation that the department chair (or faculty member) will serve as the course coordinator. The approval letter should also reflect this. The GEO will follow-up.
- The **course-based E Focus request for W for NURS 320L** was approved by a vote of 5-0-0.
- The **proposal from the GEO to grant contingent approval for one semester to course-based focus proposals that were approved by the Focus boards** was approved by a vote of 5-0-0. The one-semester approval will allow more time for approval and any negotiation or changes that need to be made. The GEC will now have until the end of the semester to approve these

proposals instead of prior to the start of registration. Responsibility for shepherding would fall on GEC. In the spirit of encouragement, this is a good thing. We still need to make sure the student experience is a good experience

## **2. Reports/Updates**

- **Feedback from CAA: Transition from FS to FQ**

Since neither Lisa nor Kiana was present, it was agreed that the report about feedback from CAA should be tabled to the next meeting.

- **GEC/SEC Meeting**

Dore and Miguel reported that there were shared governance issues brought up by the SEC. The group brainstormed many ideas, short and long term options. Marguerite had shared a comparison with the UC system's shared governance. There were concerns about Mānoa functions being moved up to System. There was an issue with the budget that did not include appropriate representation. The focus was short-term that resulted in the resolution at the senate meeting to develop a task force. Some of the concerns include how System vs. UHM will administer certain things like Gen Ed, but this particular discussion did not go in this direction. It seems like there is a sense of helplessness. Mānoa and CCs actually have a lot in common.

- **System/MultiCampus Foundations meeting**

VCs at community colleges wanted FQ to start beginning Fall 2017, but the CCs haven't approved hallmarks or started the transition. We need to align with the CCs to leverage things better with System. FS/FQ transition allows for this opportunity. Members felt positive about the transition. GEO is optimistic that the other 7 campuses will approve the transition and hallmarks.

- **University Council on Articulation (UCA) meeting**

The major concern was with meeting the Fall 2017 implementation date for articulation. System was not going to take the lead on this, so campuses would need to rely on VCAs for leadership. GEO will write the FAQ sheet for Mānoa's FQ transition. The April meeting will provide more info on the FS/FQ transition. The UHM transition includes a rollout plan for FQ, and this includes phasing out FS by Fall 2023. This can be a model for the other institutions. Phasing out FS is in the best interest, and this can be a collaborative effort between UHM and the other institutions. GEO will meet with Wendy Pearson and Debbie Halbert to discuss details.

- **New course evaluation system and GenEd**

David Lassner sent a memo indicating that System will have a new course evaluation system (not ecafe) for roll out beginning Spring 2017. Assessment will happen at multiple scales - a tiered system of evaluation. There is interest for this tool to assess Gen Ed. Hoku has concerns about it, since there is program, but no validity testing (will the students understand the questions?). GEO is pursuing the SALG tool via SENCER. SALG is already doing what the new tool aims to do, and SALG has been tested for reliability and validity. SALG is built around learning gains in as related to SLOs. Gen Ed could use SALG to evaluate if a course has met hallmarks from the student perspective. This might be useful for focus renewals. Dore asked what the Assessment office has to say about the new System tool. There is potential, but this is an indirect measure. SALG is accepted by WASC as assessment data. The new system approach is not accepted/may not be tried to be accepted.

- **Update on Board review of Focus Exemptions**

It was reported that the E Board reviewed the first "course-based" focus exemption. Although the student's application was denied, the review process was conducted without any problems.

- **Update from the Focus Boards**

Dore reported that the O Board is working on adjusting the explanatory notes. The board also emphasized the need to have a master syllabus for course-based Focus proposals.

**3. Next Meeting: April 11, 2016, from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.,**

Meeting adjourned at 4:34 p.m.

*Submitted by Vicky Keough, Recorder, with notes from Maria Stewart*