

General Education Committee
October 4, 2005
Hawai'i Hall 208
Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:37 p.m.

Present: Helen Baroni, Richard Bigus, Patricia Fryer (chair), Jon Goss, Emily Hawkins, Jeannie Lum, James Marsh, Megumi Taniguchi.
Jan Heu (A&R), Tom Hilgers (GEO), Noel Kent (SEC), Helene Sokugawa (OVCAA).
Guest: Ron Cambra (Assoc Dean, A&S).
Absent: Kelly Aune (OVCAA)

MINUTES: The minutes and liaison reports of September 20, 2005, were approved as submitted.

Guest Ron Cambra was introduced.

ORAL LIAISON REPORTS: Usual procedure is to have GEO email reports (attached) prior to each meeting; members contact Fryer if any topic requires discussion.

1. E Board (Bigus): Board is continuing to review procedures.
2. O Board (Lum): Board was concerned about the delay in receipt of a Study Abroad proposal; GEO assured the Board that procedures have been reviewed with Study Abroad and the problem should not recur.
3. W Board (Marsh): a) The English Department and English Language Institute agreed to accept SAT/ACT scores for placement into a first-year writing course. B) A syllabus is required for renewal and should show how the hallmarks are being met; some faculty consider this an intrusion.
4. HSL (Baroni): a) The HSL Committee has agreed on language for assessing 201 and 202 language courses; implementation is proving difficult because of differences in languages, but progress is being made. b) syllabi will be posted online to share systemwide; unsure of who will host and maintain the site.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. HAP system meeting (Hawkins): The Board is working to draft a simplified multi-campus agreement; discussion will continue at the next meeting (10/24).
2. Diversification renewal (Subcommittee): When materials are ready, a draft will be sent to the GEC for feedback. Fryer called the GEC's attention to VCAA Smatresk's memo of 9/23/05, Course Equivalence and the Diversification Designation (emailed to GEC and attached).
3. Mentoring (Fryer): A draft memo to the SEC (attached) was emailed to the GEC. Suggestions should be emailed to Fryer.
4. Equivalency and core credit: Question—Should a System course deemed equivalent to a UHM course meet the Foundations (F) requirement that the UHM course satisfies? (It currently does not.)

Discussion:

-In the past, courses in Art have been deemed equivalent but were not reviewed for FG; such course have parity but not equivalency.

-While Diversification courses offer broad experience, Foundations courses serve as building blocks.

Courses designated as equivalent courses may not include the same blocks or emphases.

-Reason for changing the policy: Non-system courses with equivalency are given credit for any core attributes that the UHM course has. (UHM departments and colleges decide if the course will meet major or college requirements.)

-Non-system courses are reviewed by departments for equivalency. Once granted, it is in the A&R database permanently.

-Community colleges (CCs) may want recognition of courses not offered at UHM, which is possible through F Program Option (not available outside UH system) and course-by-course articulation.

-Transfer and Articulation websites:

-A&R hopes to have its updated web site available by the end of October. Site will be database of system and non-system courses that transfer to UHM. Will show whether course is equivalent or an elective; will not show attributes (e.g., Foundations or Diversification).

-The System is also working on a transfer web site.

-OVCAA has a web site of Focus approvals.

-Multiple websites may confuse students.

-To address the problem of CCs feeling that they are subject to more rigorous review, non-system courses might be reviewed for F attributes and faculty should do the review.

-A&R consults with departments whose faculty review for equivalency. Some departments make separate recommendations on “equivalency” and “o.k. for Foundations”; others indicate equivalency only.

-If departments are slow in responding, students will not be informed of the results in a timely manner. Delays would cause major problems for transfer students.

Cambra on the slow response to requests for transcript reviews: He will discuss in-house solutions with his staff; e.g., contact departments for summer contact persons; review transfer student application deadlines—earlier deadlines give more time for review.

Discussion will continue at a future meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Hawaiian/Second Language Requirement Waiver

One school currently wants to waive this requirement.

In January 2002, the GEC removed itself from consultation in such decisions.

The question was raised as to whether the language in the HSL document re Faculty Senate consultation should also be removed since it is apparently not followed.

2. Approval of Spring 06 Focus recommendations

MOTION: It was moved and seconded to accept all recommended courses on the list distributed by the GEO (attached). Motion passed unanimously.

In order to meet the printed Schedule of Classes deadline, additional recommendations will be voted on by email. However, if there are any No recommendations, board chairs should be present at the meeting when the vote is taken.

3. Mānoa Assessment Council (Hilgers reporting for Monica Stitt-Bergh)

Charge to the Council: deal with all assessment of student learning.

GEC and its boards need not address learning outcomes.

It was asked whether the GEC could be represented on the Council.

Discussion will continue when Kelly Aune (OVCAA) is present.

WRAP UP

1. Continue discussions on:
 - a) Equivalency and core credit
 - b) Mānoa Assessment Council.

Next meeting: Tuesday, 10/18/05, 12:30-2:00 p.m., Hawai'i 208.

Send New Business items to Fryer.

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Submitted by Barbara Mueller-Ali, Recorder