

General Education Committee  
September 20, 2005  
Hawai'i Hall 208  
Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:31 p.m.

Present: Helen Baroni, Richard Bigus, Patricia Fryer (chair), Jon Goss, Emily Hawkins, Jeannie Lum, Megumi Taniguchi.  
Kelly Aune (OVCAA), Jan Heu (A&R), Tom Hilgers (GEO), Noel Kent (SEC), Helene Sokugawa (OVCAA), Monica Stitt-Bergh (GEO).

Absent: James Marsh.

MINUTES: The minutes of September 6, 2005, were approved as submitted.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. HAP system meeting (Hawkins)
  - The UHM HAP Board is working towards a shared understanding of its hallmarks.
  - A draft HAP multi-campus proposal has been sent to the HAP chair.
  - Hawkins will ask if a meeting date on multi-campus H articulation can be set, possibly for November.
2. Diversification renewal (Subcommittee)

The subcommittee is working on interpreting the Diversification hallmarks before deciding how to implement the renewal process for UHM and the community colleges.

Fryer will join the subcommittee as a representative of the sciences.

3. Mentoring (Fryer)
  - a. The GEC needs to decide if the campus needs a mechanism for mentoring.
    - Mentoring needs seem to be taken care of by various entities on campus.
    - Need to determine what student needs mentoring would satisfy.
    - A group of students, parents, faculty, advising and orientation staffs could be convened to discuss.

CONSENSUS: Fryer will draft a memo to the SEC stating that mentoring needs may be met by existing entities on campus and that, furthermore, mentoring should not be a component of the GEC program.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Gen Ed Reports
  - a. Gen Ed enrollments (Stitt-Bergh): A handout with enrollment data was distributed (attached) and reviewed.
    - FG: high enrollments in proportion to the number of freshmen.
    - Focus: enough seats are being offered to meet student needs.
  - b. Spring 2006 Focus class summary (Hilgers): A handout was distributed (attached). This semester more proposals have come in by the deadline.

- c. Chair visits (Hilgers): 2 handouts were distributed (attached) with data about departments visited: Number of majors, degrees earned, and enrollment in Focus sections. The top 15 majors account for about 40% of B.A.s awarded. The largest majors have the fewest E and O courses. Smaller majors provide most of the seats in Focus areas.

Findings:

- Chairs are under-informed about Focus requirements.
- Some chairs are unaware that courses can have more than one Focus designation.
- Students are not complaining to departments about the lack of Focus classes in their major.
- Class-size limits in E and W classes are claimed to be a problem for most departments.
- A change in department culture is required. Previously, departments could be major-only oriented; now general education requirements need to be considered along with the major.

2. Equivalency and Core credit

OVCAA has discovered that if a UH system course is input into Banner as equivalent to a UHM course, Banner automatically assigns it the Gen Ed Core attributes of the Mānoa course; e.g., a Physics course from UH Hilo was automatically given a UHM Diversification attribute.

-Current policy states that equivalent system courses do not get automatic Gen Ed Core equivalency upon transfer to UHM; i.e., they are not automatically given credit for the Mānoa attributes assigned to the UHM course.

**MOTION:** Any system course deemed equivalent to a UHM course will meet any Diversification requirement that the UHM course satisfies. Motion passed 6 in favor, 1 abstention.

Whether this should be the policy for system Foundations courses will be discussed at the next meeting.

WRAP UP

1. For GEO consideration: On the Focus Proposal form, instructors indicate whether the designation is New or a Renewal. The form is not clear for those who had WI designations in pre-Focus semesters; i.e., if an instructor had a WI designation, is he/she applying for a new W designation or renewing?

Next meeting: Tuesday, 10/4/05, 12:30-2:00, Hawai'i 208.  
Send New Business items to Fryer.

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Submitted by Barbara Mueller-Ali, Recorder