

Minutes of the General Education Committee

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

Hawai'i Hall 208

ATTENDEES: Ernestine Enomoto, Sianha Gualano (ASUH), Joe Jarrett, Mike Nassir, Mamoru Sato, Galen Sasaki, Comfort Sumida

Ex officio: Ron Cambra (AVCUE), Lilikala Kame'eleihiwa (SEC), Ryan Yamaguchi (A&R)

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

Excused: Jim Caron, Garrett Inoue (A&R), Todd Sammons (GEO), Wei Zhang

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:02 p.m. by Chair Ernestine Enomoto.

ACTION and INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Minutes of February 1, 2011 were approved as amended (in *italics*):
 - Action/Info Item #2: ~~Passing grades~~ *Proposal to change passing grades from D- to C/C-*
 - Action/Info Item #4: Freshmen *Colloquium* Retention Proposal - White Paper
 - Action/Info Item #4, 2nd bullet: *Discussed*; motion to accept GEC rebuttal with minor editing.
 - Action/Info Item #4, add last bullet: *Enomoto to work on revising rebuttal.*
2. MFS Course Numbering Schema (Fujikawa)
 - Course number and content should be consistent across campuses (a point that the former GenEd Faculty Administrator endorsed for many years)
 - Would facilitate articulation and goodwill.
 - Who gets to make the decisions? It should be all campuses involved with a particular course.
 - What happens if the group does not reach a consensus? Who will adjudicate?
 - Perhaps it should be the person that wrote the course.
 - Students suffer if they transfer to UHM unprepared; course number and content should be uniform.
 - GEC has until April to provide a response.
 - Suggestion: respond with a list of issues and concerns.
3. MFS Freshman Colloquium White Paper Response – Update
 - A draft GEC response has been prepared.
 - CAPP and CSA pressed for a response, so Enomoto mentioned that GEC had negative responses.
 - A new smaller committee/working group has been formed: Jarrett and Yamaguchi, maybe Enomoto.
Have not met with the other two committees.
 - Summary of points:
 - Large groups is not a good idea.
 - Cost would be prohibitive.
 - Compared with other institutions, didn't seem to be compatible.
 - UHM already has the First Year Experience/ACE programs. What happens to these programs if the (untested) Freshmen Colloquium commences?
 - 9 credits would be too much to take on for a freshman.
 - Assistant(s) issue.

- Must meet General Education requirements. No review process involved? This would be against basic General Education requirements.
 - ACE was offered in A & S prior to 2007.
 - Other departments already have sections with guest lecturers.
 - General Education should be prioritized up front.
 - If course changes from year to year, then we'd have to review syllabus every year.
 - SEC Liaison Kame'eleihiwa stated it was okay to share draft response with CSA
 - Enomoto to make changes in the order of points to reflect GEC's order of priorities.
4. Update: High Failure Working Group
- Will be meeting tomorrow.
 - There has been progress made on a student survey. Jarrett found an online location. Survey is in the past-tense, approximately 20 questions (Why do they think they failed the course? Did they repeat it? Does the fault lie in lack of preparation? To be sent to last semester's students via the instructor.
 - Enomoto thought she might be able to meet with a group of advisors – Cambra advised her to contact Ruth Bingham with the CAA (Council of Academic Advisors); also suggested hosting a “Brown Bag Forum” to obtain more responses from students.
5. Update: Foundations Board on FS resolution
- Board will meet this Friday to finalize resolution.
6. Update: 400-diversification
- Group felt it didn't make sense to exclude 400-level courses but will do a case-by-case evaluation.
 - The intent of diversification was discussed; as long as a course provided basic structure/pedagogy regardless of level, it could be considered diversification.
 - Group felt if they didn't change the Hallmarks but added to the description of Explanatory Notes might be beneficial.
7. Advisory Group report
- New Course Proposal forms distributed.
 - Question of who can revise GE requirements (per Fujikawa, currently should be reviewed by multi-campus/system groups for H and F).

Next meeting: March 1, 2011, 3:00 p.m., HH 208.

Meeting adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

Submitted by Jo-Anne Nakamoto, Recorder.