

Minutes of the General Education Committee
Wednesday, October 22, 2008
Hawai'i Hall 208

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:34 p.m. by Mike Kirk-Kuwaye, Chair.

Present: Lynne Higa, Susan Johnson, Mike Kirk-Kuwaye, Scott Rowland, Carolyn Stephenson

Ex officio: David Ross (SEC), Alan Yang (A&R)

Guests: Tom Hilgers (GEO), Jo-Anne Nakamoto (GEO Recorder)

Absent: Ron Cambra, George Wong

Excused: Lisa Fujikawa (GEO), Duane Henry (GEO), Mike Nassir

MINUTES: Minutes of the October 8, 2008 meeting were approved with one addition: In Action/Information Items, #2, addition of bullet by Kirk-Kuwaye ("Kirk-Kuwaye requested of Kellogg an FW update report to the GEC in February, 2009.")

ACTION AND INFORMATION ITEMS:

1. Clarification requested via Hilgers re last week's voting of UHWO diversification recommendations: was there mention of an effective date? Are some courses already being offered?
DISCUSSION:
 - Make it retroactive and find out if any students are affected (i.e., transfers to UHM).
 - Make it effective F07 (however, Banner unable to identify those students).
 - Deal by petition/exception (Yang stated that the entering class numbered 46 students); can we acquire a list of UHWO transfers?ACTION: Yang will find out if we can/are able to acquire a list of UHWO transfers, and if it can be done within reason.
2. Time frame for FG and FS requirements
 - FS issues – by allowing students to take FS courses in non-freshman years, we are not complying with the catalog language. If we decided to change the language, a resolution would need to be taken to the Faculty Senate Board after review by Foundations Board.
 - There appears to be a time problem especially for those in the biological sciences. Given prerequisites and courses taken in sequence, it tends to be Honors students that successfully follow a prescribed series of courses. Higa noted that many students are unable to take and successfully pass MATH 140 and CHEM on the first attempt; many students put off calculus until their sophomore or junior year. Calculus is another course that sometimes requires multiple attempts.
 - Would it be detrimental to students if they take Foundations in their first two years?
 - Current WASC Handbook states that we must have students displaying quantitative skills.
 - There are enough FS seats, but do we have enough successful students to fill/complete these courses? Per Yang, there are approximately 1,800 incoming freshmen in the Fall and 300 in the spring.

- Suggestion to take FS requirement and split into other fields.
 - A scenario was described: in F05, NREM 293 had 192 students enrolled, PHIL 110/111 had 167; and approximately 700 in MATH courses. Twenty-five percent did not pass the course the first time (Hilgers).
 - Suggestion – invite more FS-departmental people to discuss with GEC; perhaps create a special subcommittee.
3. Request for clarification for A & R (Kirk-Kuwaye): It was reconfirmed that the GEC agreed that any CC course with GenEd focus designation taken for a grade can transfer to UHM.

WRAP UP:

1. GEO to inquire about obtaining requested FS and FG data from A&R (how many freshman take any/all of their Foundations courses in Fall or Spring; what courses/AP counted; how many withdraw, how many are successful (via grades)?
2. Yang to seek possible acquisition of any UHWO transfer listing to confirm diversification articulation.

The meeting adjourned at 2:52 p.m.

Next meeting: 1:30 p.m. on November 5, 2008, HH 208. (Upcoming meetings: 11/19, 12/3).

Submitted by Jo-Anne Nakamoto, Recorder