

Minutes of the General Education Committee

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

QLC 208

Attendees: Dore Minatodani, Sarita Rai, Stacey Roberts, Scott Rowland, Amy Schiffner, Todd Sammons (GEO), Carolyn Stephenson (SEC), Comfort Sumida, Dwane Tegman (ASUH), Ryan Yamaguchi (Admissions)

GEO support staff: Dawne Bost, Lisa Fujikawa

Excused: Ron Cambra (AVCUE), Joy Logan (sabbatical), Wei Zhang

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 1:35 p.m.

ACTION ITEMS

- 1. Introductions.** The GEC welcomed AY14 member Bob Joseph and bid aloha to AY13 Chair Dore and members Wei and Comfort. Stacey Roberts will be the AY14 GEC Chair; a Vice-Chair has not yet been appointed. Dwane hopes to continue as the ASUH representative to the GEC in AY14.
- 2. Minutes** from several AY13 meetings were reviewed:
 - November 28, 2012 minutes were approved by a 5-0-2 vote.
 - March 6, 2013 minutes (with discussion of the Foundations proposal to change the initial approval period) were unanimously approved.
 - March 20, 2013 minutes (with votes on a Focus Exemption and a Foundations renewal for WS 176) were unanimously approved.
 - April 10, 2013 minutes (primarily covering review of multiple and course-based Focus designation proposals) were unanimously approved.
 - April 16, 2013 minutes were deferred until the next meeting.
- 3. H,O, and W Focus Request for AMST 320 - Sunny Greer** (revised)
 - For requests for 3 or 4 Focus designations, each Board reviews its own Focus area and then makes a recommendation to the GEC, who reviews the proposal in its entirety. The GEC then decides whether to approve the requested designations for the course. In the case of AMST 320, all three Focus Boards recommended approval. However, the GEC had some concerns about the O Focus component. This was communicated to the instructor, who decided to offer the course with only two designations (H and O) in Summer 2013.
 - The instructor also submitted revisions in response to the GEC's comments. Based on the additional information, the GEC voted unanimously to approve all three Focus designations for Sunny Greer's AMST 320 course, effective Spring 2014.
- 4. Focus Exemption Request – Rose**
 - There was general consensus that Focus Exemption requests should be submitted after the “extraordinary learning experience” takes place, not prior.
 - Ryan said Admissions sometimes has similar experience with transfer credit requests, where students submit a course to be evaluated for transfer credit prior to taking it. In those instances, an initial evaluation is provided to the student with the caveat that a second review may be required if there are any changes.

- The GEC decided to follow a similar procedure. Lisa will contact the student to let her know that while her proposed Focus Exemption looks good, the GEC does not approve exemptions prior to the experience taking place. Consequently, the student will have to resubmit Focus Exemption paperwork after she has completed the experience, making sure that she addresses how the experience met all the Hallmarks and that her mentor certifies that the experience took place.

5. Information Items

a. **Unanimous Foundations course approvals** included:

- **BOT 105** as an FGC course. This designation was renewed after the department let the designation lapse and had the DS reinstated last year. The renewed FGC will be effective from Spring 2014.
- **WS 176** renewal of the FGB designation. The proposal also came before the GEC at the Foundations Board's request.

Although the GEC previously approved the Foundations Board's proposal to allow unanimous approvals to bypass GEC review, clear procedures were not established. Dore and F Board Chair Amy Schafer will meet to discuss this oversight and to make appropriate modifications to the Gen Ed Handbook. Dore and Amy will also discuss the new policy which lowers initial Foundations approval period from five to three years.

b. The annual **System Foundations meeting** was held in April. The group discussed:

- Their campuses' diverse renewal processes.
- Highlights from their annual reports.
- Professional development concerns. Manoa will make an effort to be more inclusive and open workshops up to participants from other UH campuses. Dawne may also visit other campuses in a greater effort to build bridges and work together.
- Concern about KapCC's Curriculum Central process, where Foundations designations are assigned without going through Foundations Board review. A new MATH course was subsequently approved by the F Board, but other courses (both new and renewal) continue to present problems. KapCC F Board Chair Shawn Ford has worked to bring the issue to KapCC's attention, but asked the group for its help. A memo to KapCC will be drafted.

The group will meet again in Fall 2013.

c. The **System HAP group** met for the second time this spring. The agenda included:

- "Approval" of proposed revisions to the HAP Hallmarks and Explanatory Notes. Revisions had been drafted at the previous meeting, and each campus representative was supposed to report after going back to his/her campus and getting feedback on the proposed revisions, which included replacing the word "native" with the word "aboriginal." Manoa was particularly concerned about the proposed removal of Hallmark #4, especially because the idea of "in-depth analysis" may also be removed.
- Discussion of how to define "Native voice," especially with regard to diasporic voices (i.e., do they "count"?).
- HAP assessment. Community colleges generally assess at the course level, while Manoa assesses at the program level.
- Reaffirming the articulation agreement for AY14.

The suggestion was made to convene a multicampus HAP summit in Fall 2013 to talk about proposed changes and who "counts" when it comes to "Native voice." The results of the summit can be presented at WIPCE, an international conference on indigeneity which KapCC will host in Spring 2014.

Manoa had several people in attendance at the meeting, including Dore, the GEO staff, and current and incoming UHM HAP Board Chairs Yuko Otsuka and Ernestine Enomoto.

- d. The **annual report of the GEC** was written and submitted by Dore. She felt that the GEC did a tremendous amount of work this year, and thanked them for their efforts. She highlighted three issues from the Faculty Senate:
- The FS issue will be reassigned to multiple committees.
 - Information literacy will be reassigned to the GEC next year. A working group may be created.
 - High DFWI is a third-year carryover.
- e. The only **carryover proposal** is the FG proposal for SOCS 180.
- One of the F Board concerns was that the proposers requested an FGC designation, but there is very little treatment of the period prior to 1500. The Board felt an FGB designation would be more appropriate, especially since the majority of the course covers the late 20th and early 21st centuries.
 - Another concern was the course's emphasis on globalization rather than on global coverage. The Board felt that the emphasis on globalization led to weak cross-cultural analysis. With globalization, there is a homogenization of cultures rather than a study/comparison of varied cultures.
 - Sarita as one of the proposers felt that the Board was not clear about what they wanted, and that there would have been time to submit revisions if the Board's review had been sent earlier.

NEXT MEETING will be held in Fall 2013.

Meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Submitted by Lisa Fujikawa, Recorder