

Minutes of the General Education Committee

Tuesday, October 12, 2010

Hawai'i Hall 208

ATTENDEES: Jim Caron, Ernestine Enomoto, Joe Jarrett, Mike Nassir,
Galen Sasaki, Mamoru Sato, Comfort Sumida, Wei Zhang

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

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

Excused: Garrett Inoue (A&R)

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m. by Chair Ernestine Enomoto.

1. Introduction of newest GEC member, Wei Zhang (Sociology).
2. Minutes of September 28, 2010 were approved with the following corrections:
 - Added an "i" to Lilikala's last name (Kame'eleihiwa)
 - Action/Item #2, bullet #10, 2nd indent: sentence reworded to (changes in italics):
 - "... FS requirement, then do it ~~before~~ *after* the March WASC visit. *WASC will be pleased to know that GEC is actively pursuing the issue.*"
3. Focus Proposal -- AMST 319 (multiple focus designation): E, O, W
Discussion:
 - Clarification made re process: proposals with three or more designations come to the GEC for final approval.
 - Concerns raised by E Board (no master syllabus, ability to teach 3 designations?)
 - Via memo, could we invite the instructor to self-assess? "We're interested in how teaching a course with 3 Focus designations worked for you."

Vote: 6 for, 2 against, 0 abstained.
4. O-Focus Exemption Application ("Geena")
Discussion:
 - Student presented a single assignment four times in a single day.
 - Quantity didn't measure up to what is needed for a 300-level course.
 - No documented, quality feedback in between presentations.
 - Question raised: Why should GEC and not the Focus-Boards approve these Focus Exemption applications?

Vote: 0 for, 8 against, 0 abstained
5. Foundations proposal – FSHN 141: FGB
 - Vote: 8 for, 0 against, 0 abstained.
 - Suggestion: invite instructor to submit student surveys to GEC.
6. GEC Liaison and Subcommittee Assignments:
 - Wei Zhang agreed to be the H-Board Liaison.
 - Jim Caron, Galen Sasaki, and Comfort Sumida agreed to be on the Diversification subcommittee along with Mike Nassir.
7. Update on FS Issues

- Chair Enomoto attended recent Foundations Board meeting and a UH System/DOE Math Summit. DOE is redoing their math core/requirements according to the “National Common Core State Standards.” Hawaii DOE is also now a member of the Consortium.
- We originally thought we could put some “teeth” into the FS requirement, but now many issues have surfaced and we need to a) be clear where we want to go, and b) keep other members in the loop.
 - Perhaps we could go to the Math Department and discuss the high failure rate in MATH 100.
 - We may need to rethink our FS Hallmarks. The National Common Core State Standards have 8 standards; how do they map to our Hallmarks?
 - How well-equipped to handle FS courses will high school graduates be when entering UH?

The next meeting of the GEC will be on Tuesday, October 26, 2010, 3 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 4:07 p.m.

Submitted by Jo-Anne Nakamoto, Recorder.