

General Education Committee
October 30, 2006
Hawai'i Hall 208
Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:35 p.m. by the chair.

Present: Cristina Bacchilega, Helen Baroni (chair), Richard Bigus, John Engel, Jon Goss, Susan Johnson, George Wong.
Ron Cambra (OVCAA), David Chin (SEC), Jan Heu (A&R), Tom Hilgers (GEO), Todd Sammons, Helene Sokugawa (OVCAA).

Absent: Megumi Taniguchi, Ruth Kleinfeld (emeritus),

MINUTES: The minutes of October 16, 2006, were approved as submitted.

ACTION AND INFORMATION ITEMS:

1. Board Recommendations (Hilgers)

- a. *Focus Board Recommendations: Spring 2007 Proposals, Third List* was distributed.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded to approve the recommended courses on the list. The motion passed unanimously.

- b. Foundations Board recommendation: Windward CC's MATH 112 for Foundations Symbolic Reasoning (FS)

MOTION: It was moved and seconded to approve Windward CC's MATH 112 for FS. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Update on WASC (Hilgers)

VCAA is preparing *UHM's Proposal for WASC Accreditation*. UHM is entering a new accreditation period as well as responding to past deficiencies noted in the 2003 special review.

–The proposal should be a commitment to initiatives that will make UHM better.

–Excerpts from the draft concerning gen ed were distributed for review, as was a suggested revision (deadline Thursday afternoon, 11/2).

–A committee was formed to rework the draft: Chin, Johnson, Baroni, Goss, Hilgers. Revised sections of the draft will be emailed to the GEC by Wednesday morning for feedback.

–New Faculty Senate Task Force on Assessment will consider: faculty involvement in setting up an assessment policy, role in implementation, need for support, etc.

Discussion:

–The draft report fails to reflect all that GEC has already considered and accomplished.

–Gen ed sections should be revised to reflect the current situation at UHM.

–Baroni reported that the VCAA requested “core competencies” for gen ed, which he says are not the same as hallmarks.

–GEC thinks that competencies could stem from the hallmarks—translating the hallmarks into competencies. (Hallmarks deal with the course goals; competencies deal with student outcomes.)

–Once competencies are established, there must be means of assessing them.

- Question was raised again about evidence supporting “growing consensus for a standardized exam.”
- LCC, WCC, UHWO are adopting UHM’s core. HCC and KCC already have. UH Hilo is also reviewing its core and adopting features similar to Mānoa’s.

3. Follow up on courses (Baroni)

- a. IS 250H: A&R recommends articulation as an elective. Baroni supports the recommendation. MOTION: It was moved and seconded to approve the course as recommended. The motion passed unanimously.
- b. ANTH 152, ANTH 200: Baroni confirmed that UHM’s Anthropology chair wants both to articulate as equivalent to ANTH 152 (FG); ANTH 200 is DS.
Heu and Sokugawa will check on the current articulation status of these system courses.
- c. WS 495: requesting 3 Focus designations–E, O, W
Baroni had asked each of the Focus boards to reconsider their recommendations. All reaffirmed their recommendation for approval. Further discussion tabled until the next meeting.
GEC members will review the proposals (available in GEO, Bilger 104).

Discussion:

- Is it appropriate for “topics” courses to have Focus designations?
- Need for some sort of algorithm to use when considering a course for 3 or more designations.

WRAP UP

1. Committee will email a revised version of the WASC draft to GEC by Wednesday morning.
2. Heu and Sokugawa will check on the current articulation status of ANTH 152 and ANTH 200.
3. GEC members will review the WS 495 proposals (available in GEO, Bilger 104).

Next meeting: Monday, 11/13/06, 12:30-2:00 p.m., Hawai‘i 208.

If you have any agenda items, please email Baroni <hbaroni@hawaii.edu>.

The meeting adjourned at 2:02 p.m.

Submitted by Barbara Mueller-Ali, Recorder