

Minutes of the General Education Committee
Wednesday, February 24, 2010
Hawai'i Hall 208

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:32 p.m. by Chair Scott Rowland.

Present: Ernestine Enomoto, Lynne Higa, Susan Hippensteele (SEC), Garrett Inoue (A&R), Mike Nassir, Steve Rola (A&R) , Scott Rowland, Todd Sammons, Galen Sasaki, Mamoru Sato, Carolyn Stephenson

Ex officio: Ron Cambra (OVCAA)

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

ACTION AND INFORMATION ITEMS:

1. The minutes of February 10, 2010 were accepted as submitted.
2. GEC voted unanimously to approve the following Course-based proposals:
 - ITE 343 Personal & Social K-6 Health Skills – O Focus
 - MATH 351 Foundation of Euclidean Geometry– W Focus
 - MATH 412/413 Intro to Abstract Algebra– W Focus
 - MATH 420 Intro to the Theory of Numbers– W Focus
 - PACS 108 Pacific Worlds: An Intro to Pacific Island Studies – HAP Focus

GEC voted unanimously to approve the following Diversification subcommittee recommendations:

- BOT 202 Plant Ecology (DB)
 - BOT 202L Plant Ecology Lab (DY)
 - BOT 203 Field Botany (DB+DY)
 - BOT 301 Plant Conservation Biology (DB)
 - BOT 301L Plant Conservation Biology Lab (DY)
 - ECON 339 The Ocean Economy (DS)
3. 400-level Diversification
 - Cambra distributed two reports. Using records of 100 random students with more than 100 credits, checked to see how many were fulfilling Diversification requirements with 300- or 400-level courses.
 - Approximately 40 % used either 300- or 400-level courses to satisfy Diversification requirements, the largest number of courses coming from the Social Sciences.
 - GEC requested that Cambra obtain data only for students taking 400-level courses to fulfill a Diversification requirement and see if it can be determined

whether those courses have a prerequisite with the same Diversification designation. GEC also requested that the group be larger.

- Cambra reported that STAR group is researching college versus UH graduation rates, trying to locate any potential barriers. Also, UHM students will soon be able to utilize a four-year “Academic planner” program, and with that UHM may be able to predict what courses are needed in a specific semester.
 - Higa noted that she observed some students using 400-level courses for both Diversification and “back credits” for language.
4. “What is FS?” Working Group Update (Nassir)
- Group’s second meeting was on 2/25.
 - Group examined GEC’s charge to them, the WASC requirement, and the 1996 Hallmarks.
 - They felt that any changes in catalog description would not include any changes to the Hallmarks.
 - Nassir stated that they are aiming for a 4/7/10 date to submit the report.
5. Discussion – “Transfer” of instructor” Focus approval from one campus to another.
- Acceptance is in tandem with ruling from Cambra’s office that we accept designations of sending campus.
 - It was noted again that Hallmarks don’t change between campuses; Focus designation is assigned to instructor, not course; if there are extenuating cases, Hilgers sends students to their deans for exemption/approval.
 - Perhaps caveat could be included that every campus should insist on renewals of their Focus courses, not permanent designations.
 - The GEC agreed that instructors’ Focus approvals should follow them through the UH System.

Meeting adjourned at 2:43 p.m.

Next meeting: March 10, 2010, 1:30 p.m., HH 208.

Submitted by Jo-Anne Nakamoto, Recorder