

Minutes of the General Education Committee

Tuesday, November 9, 2010

Hawai'i Hall 208

ATTENDEES: Ernestine Enomoto, Sianha Gualano, Joe Jarrett, 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: Jim, Caron, Garrett Inouye (A&R), Mike Nassir

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Chair Ernestine Enomoto.

1. Minutes of October 26, 2010 were approved with the following changes/corrections (in *italics*):
 - Action Item 3, 1st bullet: Discussion: ~~Instructor~~ *Department* submitted a revised course description.
 - Action Item 4, 4th bullet: Enomoto is working with Tim Merrill (IRO) *to generate the data requested. Generated list of Initially* top 50 courses (4 semesters) *were reported* This is a Faculty Senate charge of CAPP, MAC and GEC.
 - Action Item 4, 4th bullet, 6th indent: We want to identify *course* patterns.
 - Action Item 4, 4th bullet, 9th indent: Note: FS is a different animal ~~vs.~~ from FW, *so* you cannot treat them the same.
 - Action Item 4, 4th bullet, 10th indent: There appears to be a ~~big~~ disconnect between high school graduates and UHM expectations of them.
2. Vote on Focus Exemption Applications
 - Raymond – E Focus (non-course) – 4 for, 0 against, 2 abstained
 - Steven – O Focus (non-course) – unanimously approved (7 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions)
 - Alyssa – O Focus (course) – Yamaguchi reported to the group that the student studied at a Spanish-speaking, accredited college of comparable size. Unanimously approved (7 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions).
3. Chair's Report
 - Enomoto and Sammons met with ASUH Representative Gualano and Sociology faculty, Wei Zhang, to provide additional GEC "orientation" information.
 - FS Course Resolution
 - Foundations Board has been discussing the issues, but has no recommendations for the GEC at this time.
 - Math Department put together a FAQ sheet for Math 100.
 - Appears that the number of students not fulfilling their FS (75-80%) is erroneous; it should be more like 54%.
 - If you look at the Hallmarks it implies there should be some quantitative skills in an FS course.
 - Perhaps we could change the Explanatory Notes.
 - WASC visit in March, 2011. We could state that it is a "work in progress".
 - Faculty Senate Charge #1 - Consolidation group (Sammons)
 - No change since last meeting.

- The consolidation group decided that Faculty Senate should request reports on collaboration between the parties involved.
- Faculty Senate Charge #2 – High failure rates
 - Group is expecting next iteration of the report at the end of this week.
 - Looking at 10 semesters (5 years) of data.
 - Will also show frequency.
 - Question: are we comparing rates with other institutions? (No, not until we have a grasp of our data.)
 - Cambra: UH has a 70% residency rate requirement, restricts others. We have some factors unique to us as a public institution and Land Grant institution.
 - We have a high percentage of working students.
 - Some students believe that “full-time status” equals 12 credits per semester.
 - What can we do to reduce high failure rates? Utilize a campus-wide positive push for more FS courses (idea of a contest with the best department getting compensated.)
- Passing grade for General Education credit
 - It is currently D on all campuses.
 - Yamaguchi noted that students may transfer in only grades of D and better to UHM.
 - Enomoto suggested that the GEC wait for a grade distribution report to see if there’s enough to work with.
 - Discussion tabled until further notice.
- 400-level Diversification
 - There appears to be a proliferation of 400-level courses that will need to be reviewed.
 - Is “Diversification” a general statement on students’ broadened field of knowledge or do students receive a survey of a field? If the latter, then 400-level Diversification courses do not meet the definition.
 - Fujikawa did a sampling of 100 students that used 400-level Diversification courses to fulfill their Diversification requirements and came up with the same number (10%) that Gary Rodwell (IRO) did.
 - Our current Diversification subcommittee consists of Jim Caron, Mike Nassir, Galen Sasaki, and Comfort Sumida.

Announcements

1. O Focus Board Workshop on Tuesday, November 16, 2010, 3-4 p.m., Hamilton Library Yap Room, “Integrating Creative Oral Techniques in Your Class”.
2. Cambra to meet with UHH Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Kenith Simmons to determine if they arrange a “match-up” of courses for articulation from UHH to UHM. (History: UHH responded to our memo of February, 2009, inviting them to discuss possible articulation of courses. UHH will have new General Education requirements effective F11.)

The next meeting of the GEC will be on Tuesday, November 23, 2010, 3:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 4:04 p.m.

Submitted by Jo-Anne Nakamoto, Recorder.