

Minutes of the General Education Committee  
Wednesday, March 10, 2010  
Hawai'i Hall 208

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:33 p.m. by Vice Chair Ernestine Enomoto.

Present: Ernestine Enomoto, Garrett Inoue (A&R), Mike Nassir, Steve Rola (A&R), 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)

Excused: Lynne Higa, Susan Hippensteele (SEC), Scott Rowland

ACTION AND INFORMATION ITEMS:

1. The minutes of February 24, 2010 were accepted with the following changes:
  - Action/Information Item #3, third bullet, reworded (in italics): “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 request that the ~~cohort~~ *group* be larger.”
2. “What is FS?” Working Group Update (Nassir)
  - Group held third meeting. Compared UHM FS requirements with another similar university. May suggest the creation of two FS categories: FS-R (reasoning), and FS-Q (quantitative skills).
3. E-Focus Exemption Application
  - Issues discussed:
    - Application appears to be premature; internship is not completed yet.
    - Not apparent from student’s application how he is fulfilling the E Focus Hallmarks.
  - GEC voted to deny this E Focus Exemption application; and to suggest to student that he/she reapply after the experience has been completed and indicate how/where met the Hallmarks.
4. GEC voted unanimously to approve the following Course-based proposals:
  - HIST 496 alpha Sr Tutorial – W Focus
  - CHEM 352L Physico-chem Measure’t (renewal) – W Focus
  - MATH 311 – Intro to Linear Algebra (renewal)– W Focus
  - MATH 321 – Intro to Advanced Math (renewal)– W Focus
  - MATH 431/432 – Advanced Calculus (renewal)– W Focus
  - FAMR 492 Internship (renewal) – W Focus (5 approved, 0 against, 1 abstention)

GEC voted unanimously to approve the following Diversification subcommittee recommendations:

- COM 310 Media Arts - recommended for DA
- COM 478 Capstone in Communication in Communities - none (recommend denying DS request)
- SOC 434 Hist of Crime and Punishment - DS
- THEA 335 Taiji Round Form for Actors - DA
- THEA 466 Drama & Theater of Japan - DH
- ART 490D Topics SE Asian Art Hist – DH

- SPED 201 Disability & Diversity - DS
5. 400-level Diversification
- GEC issue was reiterated: we are trying to determine whether or not to remove 400-level Diversification designations.
  - Cambra introduced Gary Rodwell, STAR, who distributed two handouts (stating there was no “cross-over” between the two lists).
    - “Gen Ed Diversification courses of least degree of demand”  
Courses aren’t required by major, could be GenEd, generally substitutable (“binary”)
    - “Four hundred level Diversification courses”
      - Of the 200 random students (> 100 credits earned, not yet graduated) examined, 10% of students appeared to utilize 400-level courses for their Diversification requirements.
        - Theoretically if you took away the 400-level Diversification designation, then that action has the potential to hinder advancement.
      - List included “higher demand” courses, unknown if they have prerequisite of another Div course; could have counted towards their major as well, could have double-dipped.
      - Art and Music have placement by “consent of instructor.” If the student is not an art or music major, then they may be obtaining their breadth diversification.
  - Cambra reported that the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs is currently researching another viewpoint, “course pressure points.” Attempting to measure the amount of student attempts to register for a particular course. They plan to determine where extra demands are, and if departments are using resources properly, in an attempt to assist departments/colleges to better schedule courses.
  - Rowland will communicate directly with Rodwell in an attempt to refine what data the GEC would like to obtain.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Next meeting: March 31, 1:30 p.m., HH 208.

Submitted by Jo-Anne Nakamoto, Recorder