

Minutes of the General Education Committee
Wednesday, March 31, 2010
Hawai'i Hall 208

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:31 p.m. by Chair Scott Rowland.

Present: Ernestine Enomoto, Lynne Higa, Mike Nassir, Scott Rowland, Todd Sammons, Galen Sasaki, Mamoru Sato, Carolyn Stephenson

Ex officio: Ron Cambra (OVCAA), Susan Hippensteele (SEC), Steve Rola (A&R)

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

ACTION AND INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Minutes of March 10, 2010 were approved with two corrections:
 - Action/Information Item #4 – all Math courses were renewals.
 - Action/Information Item #5, 6th bullet in: replace “harm students” with “hinder advancement.”
2. GEC vote on Diversification requests – GEC voted unanimously to delegate approving authority for Diversification requests to the General Education Diversification sub-committee.
3. Redrafted Articulation MOA: discussion deferred to next meeting. Draft copy to be made available on Lulima.
4. Retention committee update (Sammons)
 - Group meets weekly.
 - Nearly 50 ideas were proposed.
 - Focused on first year students, lots of branching out to areas of concern.
 - Tasked with forming list of no-cost suggestions as well as cost-items which will be prioritized when forwarded to the next level.
5. “What is FS?” Working Group update (Nassir)
 - Considering separating FS into two categories; tweaking wording of Hallmarks; possibility of a new Focus area (without the need for students to take additional credits.)
 - Question: have they discussed critical evaluation/assessment? Not yet.
 - WASC promotes an assessment tool that has been tested at a variety of schools for several years.
 - Evaluating students to see if they have reached determined level by school.
 - Discussed considering mechanisms to place out of FS e.g., utilizing Math SAT scores.

- Want to stress emphasis on early completion of this requirement.
6. Course-Based Focus Proposals
GEC voted unanimously (8 yes, 0 no, 0 abstained) to approve the following:
 - TIM 400 alpha (W) Executive Internship
 - TIM 431 (W) Strategic Mgmt in Travel Industry
 - FAMR 482 (W) Senior Seminar
 7. Focus Exemption Application (Oral Communication)
GEC approved this application (7 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention)
 8. Foundations Data (Fujikawa) – A & R pulled data by entering class (F03).
 - 3,778 students entered in F03, of which approximately 2,000 were first-time students, 1,680 transfer students, 100 returning students, and 10 continuing students.
 - Of the cohort, only 603 completed all of their Foundations requirements in their first year (556 of 603 were transfer students).
 - 33 first-time students completed their all Foundations requirements in the first year.
 - It was noted that some students came with FW or FS credit.
 - 427 out of 603 students graduated within 6.5 years (the time at which data were pulled).
 - GEC asked if GEO could examine only freshmen trends and not transfer students. How would this compare/reflect with graduate rate?
 - Does the completion requirement in the first year correlate with the graduation rate? Does it affect retention and graduation rates?
 - GEC asked to see number of semesters needed to complete Foundations vs. GPA, or something along that line.

Next meeting: April 14, 2010, 1:30 p.m., HH 208.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:27 p.m.

Submitted by Jo-Anne Nakamoto, GEO Recorder.