

Minutes of the General Education Committee
Wednesday, April 14, 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, Scott Rowland, Todd Sammons,
Galen Sasaki, Mamoru Sato, Carolyn Stephenson

Ex officio: Susan Hippensteele (SEC), Garret Inoue (A&R), Steve Rola (A&R)

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

Excused: Mike Nassir

ACTION AND INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Minutes of March 31, 2010 were approved with the following corrections:
 - Action/Info Item #4, 3rd bullet: added to end of sentence, “. . . to areas of concern.”
 - Action/Info Item #8, 1st bullet, 1st indent: change “556/603” to read “556 of the 603 were transfer students”
 - Action/Info Item #8, 1ST bullet, 4th indent: sentence to read, “427 out of 603 students graduated *within 6.5 years (the time at which data were pulled).*”
2. Redrafted Articulation MOA
 - Discussion ensued over item #4.
 - Are we currently reviewing Diversification courses at this time? At present, Diversification review is not *system-wide*. There is no system Diversification Office to oversee reviews. GEC is concerned about quality control and uniformity.
 - Suggestion: changing of the *tense* of the sentence would work.
 - Rowland to draft GEC response to SEC Liaison.
3. Course-Based Focus Proposals
GEC voted unanimously (7 yes, 0 no, 0 abstained) to approve the following:
 - LING 100 – Lang in HI and the Pacific (HAP)
 - LING 102 – Intro to Study of Language (W)
4. Focus Exemption Application (Oral Communication/Alyssa)
 - GEC did not approve this application (0 yes, 7 no, 0 abstained)
 - GEC felt there was insufficient evidence of training and feedback.

- It was noted that a memo should also be sent to the O Board members and the Study Abroad Office (to include the specific Hallmarks to be met, not just becoming conversant in a foreign language.)
5. “What is FS?” Working Group Report -- deferred until April 21.
 6. 400-level Diversification courses
Discussion:
 - Some faculty intentionally offer 400-level courses with Diversification designations in an effort to attract students.
 - An argument in favor of keeping 400-level Diversification designations: WASC requires GenEd distribution over four years.
 - GEO requested to access data on how many non-prerequisite courses exist with Diversification designations.
 7. Foundations Data – Fujikawa distributed charts and graphs to the GEC.
 - Only 9 of the 603 who completed all Foundations requirements by the end of their first year took all Foundations courses at UHM. The majority (511) came in with both FW and FS credit.
 - Approximately 29% of those who completed Foundations in the first year had not graduated in 6.5 years, compared with nearly 50% of those who did not complete Foundations in their first year.
 - Rowland distributed a graph that seemed to indicate that most students who take FS in the first year appeared to do better than those students who waited longer to complete those requirements.

Next meeting: April 21, 2010, 1:30 p.m., HH 208.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:37 p.m.

Submitted by Jo-Anne Nakamoto, GEO Recorder.