THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT GREENSBORO
GENERAL EDUCATION COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes
Friday, January 27, 2016
2:00 – 3:30 PM • 2711 Moore Humanities and Research Administration Building

Members Present: Allen, Bender, Brumfield, Carlone, Lennartson, McCall, Muich (for Ali), Schunk, Stephens, Terranova, and Yasaki

AGENDA ITEMS:

I. Approval of Minutes from December 9, 2016

II. Recertification
GRD remaining courses:
   ENG 230, FMS 115 and 116, RCO 102
Motion to approve recertification of remaining GRD courses as recommended by the ad hoc committee (Allen, McCall) Approved

GHP remaining courses:
   FMS 150, 151, 152, 160, 161, 162
   HSS 101, 102, 112, 121, 201, 202, 212, 221, 222
   RCO 211 & 212

Remaining GHP courses will be on the February 10 agenda.

III. Course Proposals
REL 101 Introduction to Religion – requesting GL marker
LIS 200 Information Use in a Digital World – requesting GRD Category designation

REL 101 – Motion to approve (McCall, Lennartson). Discussion concerning the need to link specific assignments to SLOs. Amended Motion to Approve Pending detailed explanations of assignments and how they link to SLOs (McCall, Lennartson).
Motion to Approve Pending GL marker approved with one objection.

LIS 200 – Motion to approve GRD category designation (Terranova, Lennartson).
Motion Approved, with the provision that the GRD SLOs are specifically stated on the syllabus.
IV. General Education Review
Chair advised Provost Dunn will attend the February 10, 2017 meeting to discuss the possible review of General Education at UNCG. David will meet with Provost Dunn the morning of February 8, and will share the Council’s questions and concerns. A draft of parameters for a review is posted in Box. Assuming a review does go forward, a report will need to go to Faculty Senate and the Provost. Student Learning should be included in the review. Review parameters should have clear objectives. The time is now to begin the review. Discussion followed regarding outside models, peer institutions, resources, compensation for Task Force, timeline for review. Bring in external experts, Community College representatives, students, alumni? Faculty schedules are already full, possibly consider monetary compensation, course releases? What type of commitment would be required for Task Force members?
The Office of New Student Transitions & First Year Experience administers a survey to all incoming students prior to SOAR asking what General Education courses they are interested in, also includes qualitative questions (what courses/topics are you interested in?). A large majority of students come to UNCG with college credit, data from this survey could be helpful with the review. Concern that the review could make the process more cumbersome.
Four areas for parameters – Administrative, Logistical, Learning, Philosophical. Suggestion to have small groups to meet and discuss (students, alumni, Emeritus faculty, faculty, etc.)
At the end of this process, what would you want to see produced?

- Where it (Gen Ed) is working/strengths
- Short comings/weaknesses
- Recommendations to address weaknesses of the program
- Logistics – are students able to get the courses they need
- Learning – are students learning
- Transparency – include the oversight and assessment (Gen Ed Council)
- Support for the program
- General Education Program shouldn’t be a “checklist”

Questions for the Provost:

- Need clarification – is this a review or a revision?
- What are the expected outcomes?
- Are there appropriate resources?
- What is the next step?
- Will there be follow through
- Who will have access to the final report
- To whom will the Task Force report (GEC, Provost, Senate)
- Funding formula
- If there are recommendations, what is the process going to be to deal with them?
- How many people will be on the Task Force?
Concerns about a review:
  • Loss of focus - could start out as a review and end up as a revision
  • Wouldn’t want departments to be harmed (departments depend on general education courses for FTE)
  • Review could cause departments to become territorial

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.
Next meeting is February 10, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. in 1607 MHRA