

General Education Committee Meeting

10 October 2022

5:00pm held over Zoom

Members in attendance:

Suanne Ansari (co-chair)

William Veal – Speaker of the Faculty (Guest)

William McCorkle (co-chair)

Bradlee Howell – Student member

John Chadwick

Karen Smail (ex officio)

Carmen Grace

Susan Kattwinkel

Blanche McCune

Absentees: Purushottam (PL) Meena (member) and Gia Quesada (ex officio)

Meeting Minutes

Minutes approved from the September 26, 2022, meeting.

1. Discussion: formation of subcommittees 2022-2023:

- A. **General Education Course review.** Members: Susan Kattwinkel, John Chadwick, Blanche McCune.

Susan started the discussion by indicating that the committee should review the assessment data done so far in the regular GenEd courses.

Karen added that we need to see an action plan in every academic area because some departments review their GenEd courses while others do not.

Suanne reminded everyone that the charge of this committee is to make recommendations on the GenEd requirements. The committee needs to choose courses that need recommendations to comply with GenEd requirements.

Susan agreed that the committee needs to reach out to the departments that didn't send any assessment of their courses.

- B. **Math/Logic Alternative.** Discussion of the possibility of not forming a subcommittee this year because GenEd members don't feel qualified for this subject. Instead, we could invite some guests to the GenEd committee to discuss the situation. Nevertheless, before deciding how to proceed, Karen and Carmen will reach out to the new director of the Center of Disability Services (Anne Osowski) to get her perspective and some updated information.

2. **REI and REACH Act courses.** The Senate meeting is tomorrow (10/11/2022) and will discuss the REI courses and potential committee. It was suggested that REACH Act and REI could be one committee.

Will Veal said that Simon Lewis will explain the situation and that he may propose a Senate committee for the REI as it was done for the FYE program. At this point, the provost didn't respond or approve of anything.

Susan pointed out that if the REI courses are a requirement for students to graduate, they should be assessed just like the FYE courses. Tomorrow is not the time for a motion, but the senate must decide whose committee will assess the REI courses.

As for the REACH Act program, there are only six courses approved for this program, so Susan thinks they need more courses. Apparently, the state legislators are checking the appropriateness of these courses, but probably faculty would like some control over them.

Will Veal raised the question of who should collect the data: should it be an institution assessment or a committee? And what is the data for online courses.

Karen answered that since there are no criteria to assess REI courses, she does not have an answer, but she knows that the faculty oversees the GenEd courses—so it could be for the REACH Act courses. Susan suggested that this issue should be a question for the provost, or a new committee dedicated to these courses.

3. **Courses approved:**

ARTM - 325 - The Art of Creativity; General Education; Humanities. There was a discussion about if the percentage should of the assignment must be shown next to the GenEd assignment. Susan and Karen confirmed that the faculty only need to demonstrate that the assignment will be graded.

SPAN - 312 - Spanish as a Heritage Language; REI; US Context

Pending approval:

ENVT - 210 - Sustainable Humanities. Some members doubted if this course was within the field of humanities. From Susan's point of view, it appeared to meet more the criteria for social science (study of the human system) than a cultural product.

Susan requested further explanation of how they see this course as humanities. Karen pointed out that this is a new course, and the curriculum committee has not approved it. Pending: reach out to Alisson Welch.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Carmen Grace