

General Education Committee Meeting Minutes/Notes
28 September 2010
Minutes taken by Sue Miller

Present: Crist, Mullins, Ball, Bonhomme, Beebe, O'Mansky, Munro, Stringer, Miller, Porter

1. Received OK for Repository, looking at November.
2. Journalism proposals and discussion
Phil Munroe wondered if these courses had been through Curriculum Committee first; Tod did not know.
Capstone course unanimously approved with little discussion
AL course—Miller expressed concern over title of course “Journalism as Literature” and questioned if this would be a required AL elective for journalism majors. Porter felt that students would be eager to enroll in the course as advisors had indicated there weren't many AL course offerings, and this particular course had no pre-req requirement. Crist made motion to approve, and “Journalism as Literature” was unanimously approved. Both courses approved pending approval by Curriculum Committee.
3. Discussion of Domain X (Contemporary Challenges)
Porter and Bonhomme discussed what courses might be included in this domain, and agreed they would include Wellness, Diversity (need to narrowly define “diversity”) and Sustainability (also need to narrowly define). A brief discussion followed on where the topic of ethics would go: in this category or humanities. Porter indicated he didn't have strong feelings either way. Bonhomme suggested ethics/philosophy in liberal arts. Porter and Mullins discussed the title of this domain, and while Porter felt at this time the name wasn't relevant, Mullins disagreed suggesting the name would define what kind of courses belong there. Stringer questioned whether courses needed to be mutually exclusive, can philosophy courses be in both liberal arts and domain X. Crist suggested a title of “Global Citizenship”. Porter concerned about learning outcomes, would there be one learning outcome for diversity, another for sustainability, and yet a third for wellness? Beebe suggested moving on to another domain to see how other courses might fit into those domains, and working on domain X as it appears to be the most difficult.
4. Reviewed Creative and Liberal Arts. Discussed specific language of the learning outcomes, and agreed on the first, without changes. The second learning domain was revised to: “Students will demonstrate awareness of ethics and cultural values in human experience.” Bonhomme reminded the committee of the importance of interdisciplinary study. Discussion on a possible title for this domain of Values and Creative Arts?
5. Social Sciences. After some discussion on the language proposed by Bonhomme and O'Mansky, Stringer suggested each domain include a descriptor along with Learning Outcomes. Miller suggested a possible name change to Social and Behavioral Sciences as this domain would include psychology courses.
6. Natural Sciences not discussed as Phil and Felicia are working on outcomes and Felicia was not at meeting.
7. Meeting adjourned, next meeting Tuesday, October 5, 2010, 3—4:00 pm (possibly til 5:00) in the Assessment/Gen Ed Conference Room, third floor of Tod Hall, former Graduate School Suite.