

General Education Committee Meeting Minutes
Monday, November 21, 2011

Present: Tod Porter, Kevin Ball, Julie Felix, Chelsea Baker, Matt O'Mansky, Bob Beebe, Sharon Stringer, Brian Bonhomme, Beckey Curnalia, Peter Reday

Meeting called to order: 3:00 PM

Minutes of 10/21/11: Approved

Assessment Committee:

Tod talked about assessment, going from "Assessment of Skill Learning Outcomes" and "Assessment of Knowledge Domain Learning Outcomes" handouts distributed to committee via email before this meeting.

-assessing critical skills

-assessing the domains:

1. Committee recommends using Learning Communities for assessment of domains

-Kevin: Are resources needed and available?

-Sharon: There may be mini-grants through Office of Assessment

-Tod: Probably would be unfunded – would be another committee assignment

-Matt: Seems time consuming for those on committee

-Tod: Problem – no one at YSU has experience with this

-Sharon: Sal Sanders did a learning community

-Brian: Should be presented as "contingent on funding"

-Tod: We will bring in "the person from Kent" who has been involved in this sort of thing

-Tod: There are subdivisions within some of the domains (Including SPA, SS, AH). Do we subdivide into representative committees?

2. Assessment committee struggled with "sunset provisions" – every four years, Gen Ed courses would need to be re-justified to Gen Ed committee.

-Susan Hatfield (HLC) stressed this.

-Tod: We are talking about ~120 courses.

-Brian: Good idea in theory, but how do we do it?

-Gen Ed committee is unenthusiastic about sunset provisions

Transition Committee

1. Copy for Bulletin

-In Associate Degree section: Now says "6 courses" rather than "15 hours." Older versions of Bulletin say both 6 courses AND 15 hours. Tod suggests that the disparity arose with the conversion from quarters to semesters.

-Tod: We should clarify by eliminating the "15 hour" language

-State requirements for Associate Degrees: 6 courses are fine UNLESS talking about arts or sciences. Our Assoc. of Arts must change to match the state's requirements (but this is beyond the realm of Gen Ed).

- Transfer student issue when student has a bachelor's degree: For accredited US institutions, generally not an issue (they don't need to take our Gen Ed) but for international degrees, students need to take the Gen Ed courses
- Kevin: English sees students without the writing skills
- Matt: How many students are impacted each year?
- Sharon: How do other OH institutions handle this?
- Tod: Would this come out of Gen Ed Committee or Academic Standards?
- Committee decision: Wait until we see what other OH institutions do and seek Charlie Singler's opinion

2. Promotion of Gen Ed

- Sarah has been working on brochures
 - Obviously, the brochure is a draft. The Gen Ed committee likes it. Be sure to feature Gen Ed website address
- Student FAQ sheet draft distributed (drafted by Sarah)
 - Peter: Suggests adding, "Why isn't ___ course a Gen Ed course?"

3. Try to create a short video (less than 5 minutes) about Gen Ed. Would feature students and faculty. To be played at SOAR and other advising events.

- Sharon has an old video about learning outcomes that may be useful for us to look at.
- Target audience: Incoming students and their parents.
- Send Tod an email if anyone has ideas about students or faculty to feature and how to produce the video.
- Who to produce?: Assessment Committee suggested contacting Mark Van Tilburg or...??
- Goal: To inform and excite about Gen Ed
- Is there a class that would be interested in producing this?
- Someone(?) from marketing has experience with such things

4. Officially, if you stop attending for more than one year, you lose right to use old Gen Ed model. But with 2000 transition, students out for more than one year were allowed to use earlier model.

- Julie: Up to the college. Advisors in CLASS use the model that is in the best interest of the student.
- Brian: We should be flexible.
- General consensus: Leave it up to the advisors.

Biology wants to tell students that they can take lab without the lecture portion of the class in order to fulfill Gen Ed lab requirement.

- Invite Gary Walker to meet with Gen Ed committee to explain/justify
- Julie: If approved, we must alter requirements to specify number of hours so that students cannot simply take 1 NS lecture and 1 NS lab to fulfill the two class requirement. Instead, must specify 7 hours.

Meeting ended: 3:59 PM

Submitted by Matt O'Mansky