

General Education Council
May 13, 2015 @ 3:00pm
Roe R. Cross, MU
MINUTES

ATTENDANCE:

Joan Brewer, James Costello, Heidi Hamilton, Brian Hollenbeck, Jo Kord, Kathy Landwehr, Sheila Markowitz, Sheryl Lidzy, Steve Lovett, and Lynette Sievert

ABSENT: Maria Castro-Munoz, Kaylan Chakraborty, Kate Dorian, Kim Massoth, and Neil Luo

Approval of April 8, 2015 minutes: Costello moved approval of the minutes. Sievert seconded the motion. Kord offered the following correction to the minutes under Debrief about HLC section, paragraph #1: "Kord said that we can always improve but we are doing fine all the assessment areas." Change it to read:

"Kord indicated that we can always improve, but we are still behind on the course embedded assessments and people sending in those assessments. She believes we are very close to having all of our general education courses mapped from a curriculum mapping standpoint. But as far as the participation in the assessment activities from all of the courses, we have had 36 from last year and 15 to date this year; with the goal that we need to have every single course their general education outcomes each year. For those that want to have assistance, Kord is willing to help if necessary."

The amendment was moved for approval by Costello and seconded by Sievert. The amendment passed unanimously. After discussion, the motion was approved unanimously.

E-Experience: On July 7, 9, & 14th, Dr. Lidzy will be presenting, "*What does it mean to be an educated person in the 21st century?*" to the E-Experience summer program sponsored by the Center for Student Involvement. Taylor Kriley, Director of Campus Engagement and New Student Programs asked that there be 3 representatives involved in the presentation. Hollenbeck and Lovett indicated they would be able to help with some of the time. Lidzy will need to recruit others to assist with the event. There will a activity – guided conversation to the six goals of the General Education Goals: core academic skills, critical thinking, broad-based knowledge, multicultural awareness, multidisciplinary connections, and enhanced quality of life.

Lidzy reported on the **General Education Council Accomplishments for 2014-15**, including

- Assessment Institute at Kansas State University, November 14th
- KLC Trailblazers Cohort has embedded leadership in their General Education courses and have begun assessment of those courses.
- "What Do You Want Wednesdays" survey in February
- General Education Visual Identity posters created and posted in classrooms across campus
- General Education Outcomes & Curriculum Mapping (82 faculty have mapped their General Education courses)
- Higher Learning Commission presentation, March 23-25

- Modification of Approved Technology Course in the Discipline – adding EC 370 Introductory Econometrics and MU 371 Technology in Music

CTE Decision on Multicultural General Education Courses for Secondary Education:

Joan Brewer presented this item from the Teachers College presented for both the Elementary and the Secondary Education programs. It is presented today only from the Secondary Education program as the Elementary program has some questions about their specific alignment with KSDE on the general education standards. For the Secondary program, the Council for Teacher Education, actually took a look at the requirements for all the Teacher Licensure programs and determined that the way it is stated in the catalog right now is that secondary education majors have to take either AN 210 or ID 301 and then any of the other multicultural perspective courses from any of the other Section E areas: Social and Behavioral Sciences. Because of the way some Secondary Education programs are structured and labeled, enrollment needs to occur, that kind of thing, it was very difficult sometimes it was very difficult to get them into a section of AN 210 or ID 301. Those courses would fill up quickly or scheduling there would be a conflict, so it was causing a lot of problems for these majors. So what we would like to do with the Secondary Education majors is remove that requirement and open it up so that these students have more options to fulfill this requirement with one course from any two areas in Section E. The only thing they will have to watch out for, but Paul Bland will be monitoring for among these students, will be the GPA requirement that they have to have. In addition, one of the 100 levels cannot count for general education GPA but it is ok because the statement says that they have to have two different courses and they have to automatically have one of the different areas. Therefore GE 101 will work just fine for them. So secondary education majors could end up taking AN 210 and ID 301 in the future, but that is not something they could have done in the past. (This does not apply to the Elementary Education majors at this time, but could in the future.) CTE has already approved this. Kord moved approval of this proposal from the Council on Teacher on Education as written and proposed with an effective date of fall 2015. Costello seconded the motion. Discussion occurred regarding the process for CTE's decision for making this recommendation. The vote was unanimously approved. Markowitz volunteered to monitor the implementation of this policy in the course catalog.

Update General Education Assessment: Lidzy reported sending out a notice on 5/6/15 to all those who have completed their General Education curriculum maps to remind them to update their assessment for the 2015 academic year. If those (82) individuals needed assistance, they were directed to contact Jo Kord (jkord@emporia.edu or call ext. 5103).

Kord reported about Assessment using Shawna Shane, PE 100: to measure for outcomes across courses. Kord wants to work to have all of the general education courses assess across courses in order avoid variability.

Higher Learning Commission Report: Kord spoke about the HLC document which was shared in Provost Council today. Comments are being shared across campus. Some of the repercussions include the following:

- a. Complete assessment cycle for general education. We have made lots of progress on our general education. They perceive we will be awarded “Met with Concern on Criteria #4” (Assessment) which will require a revisit by HLC in 4 years. (Kord indicated we need more people completing assessments.)
- b. Including learning outcomes in all course syllabi.
During the last Faculty Senate meeting, a bill was passed to address this concern. As we collect syllabus from our classes, we are to confirm all of them have learning outcomes listed on them.
- c. More consistent documentation of faculty qualifications; linked to specific teaching assignments. The problem HLC complained of related to how we presented the documentation so they could retrieve faculty vitae and syllabus readily (to validate faculty credentials).

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Associate Dean Rich Sleezer will be replacing Sheryl Lidzy as ex officio Director of General Education beginning on June 8.

Lidzy requested that Sheila Markowitz be named an Ex Officio member on the General Education Council as she is the person who enacts all of the decisions made by the committee. She can provide informed guidance for the committee as they consider their decisions. I perceive this would be a wise addition to the committee.

Heidi Hamilton will be on Sabbatical and Amy Sage Webb will be taking her place for the fall semester.

Joan Brewer will be on Sabbatical in the fall semester, but her replacement is not identified at this time.

Joyce Thierer of the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences will be added to the committee in the fall.

DISCUSSION ITEMS FOR FALL 2015:

1. Costello mentioned two topics that may make it to General Education Council will be coming out of Teacher College. 1) Submitting a grant this summer to the Department of Education for Post-Secondary Education of students with intellectual disabilities. 2) Training rehabilitation counselors to work with deaf clientele. This will effect general education in that these special needs students will be enrolled in general education courses. As such the

General Education Council will need to be aware and prepared to deal with any accommodations necessary for them. (Example of THRIVE, University of Central Missouri (<http://www.ucmo.edu/thrive/>.)

2. Consider the rationale for the modification or termination of the competency requirement for all students to take the College Assessment of Academic Proficiency for graduation.
3. Expand the use of the AAC&U Value Rubrics for Improvement of Learning & Authentic Assessment
4. Fall Meeting times and places to be announced in August by Kim Massoth