

General Education Council

February 28, 2018

MU, PKP Room

MINUTES

PRESENT: Rich Sleezer, Carol Lucy, Andy Houchins, Jo Kord, Qiang Shi, Kathy Landwehr, Sheila Markowitz, Steve Lovett, David McKenzie, Chris Stone, Shawna Shane, Maddison Thompson, Basil Kessler, and Amy Oelschlager

ABSENT: Joan Brewer and Klassee Crawford

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: February 14th minutes were reviewed and approved.

2. Information from HLC General Education Assessment Conference:

Stone attended the HLC General Education Assessment Conference in Kansas City and visited with the General Education Council about HLC's guidance in terms of learning outcomes, goals, performance indicators and how to get faculty buy-in to achieve meaningful general education assessment. Some of the issues have to do with how we view our General Education Program. Stone said we as a Council should view the General Education Program as a foundation for all the other majors setting students up for success in their majors.

Stone, Sleezer, (Deborah Hann – GEAT II member), and Kord will sit down and discuss information from the HLC Conference and provide recommendations to the Council.

Stone feels that the Council can make some changes to our General Education Program that would not be extreme and would not have a lot of push back from faculty and would make assessment a little easier.

3. Simplified 45 Hour General Education Program:

Currently our Emporia State University Policy Manual requires at least 48 hours of General Education coursework. Stone feels that it should not be an issue to propose a reduction as long as we structure it properly. Such a proposal would need to go through faculty senate for approval once done. Sleezer passed out a hand out sheet describing a 45 Credit Hour General Education program that was designed to be similar to the 45 hour articulation agreement with community colleges and be much more flexible than our current program. It would maintain the current Goal 1 Core Skills but make the remaining requirements much more flexible.

45 Hour General Education Program

Goal 1 Core Skills (15 Hours): Demonstrate proficiency in core skills necessary for academic, personal and professional achievement.

- a. Demonstrate effective written communication skills. Complete two courses: 6 hours
- b. Demonstrate effective speaking/presentational communication skills in public or interpersonal contexts: Complete one course: 3 hours
- c. Demonstrate effective use of quantitative and mathematical reasoning skills. At least 3 hours
- d. Demonstrate effective information technology and /or information literacy skills. 3 hours

Goal 2 Academic Breadth (Total of 30 Hours- at least 9 from each category): Demonstrate knowledge of concepts and principles in a wide range of academic disciplines and the ability to use multi-disciplinary approaches and critical thinking to make sound decisions based on data rather than opinion and conjecture:

Category 1. Humanities: Languages, Art, Theatre, Music, Philosophy, History, Literature and Journalism

Category 2. Cultural, Social, Health, and Behavioral Sciences: World Cultures, Civic-mindedness, Personal and Social Well-being. Cultural Competence, Rehabilitation, Personal Finance, Social Responsibility and Leadership, Sociology, Economics, Political Sciences, Psychology, Geography, Anthropology, Leadership, Health, Physical Education, Rehabilitation and Business.

Category 3. Natural and Physical Sciences: Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science, Physical Science and Physics.

A suggestion from the previous meeting was to eliminate Goal 1D the information technology/information literacy requirement. After some thought since the previous meeting Sleezer expressed the sentiment that this would not be a good idea given the reliance on technology for most careers. He also indicated that for education majors taking IT325 or IT360 such a deletion would provide no relief. They would still be required to take the course and they represent a large group of students.

Meeting adjourned: 4:05pm