

General Education Task Force

April 12, 2012 Meeting Minutes

Present: John Kent, Emily Bernet, Kristina Moller, Tim Knapp, John Catau, Judith Martin, Eric Nelson, Pam Sailors, Doug Gouzie, David Mitchell, Cindy Hail, Thomas Lane, Chris Herr, Danae Hudson, Etta Madden, and Joyce Jennings-Pineda via Skype.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:03 p.m. Minutes of the March 29, 2012 meeting were approved as amended to include Thomas Lane and Joyce Jennings-Pineda as present. All approved, motion carried.

II. REPORTS & OLD BUSINESS

A report was given on the open forum discussing the general education review. There was good attendance and the Chair appreciated the support that was given by the Task Force members in attendance. The committee was informed that the survey data (number of participants) had been questioned. The Task Force confirmed that the number of survey participants posted in the information online is accurate. It was stated at the forum that the Task Force would not be the body to approve classes. That would come from CGEIP.

The Task Force was also reminded that enrollment numbers for classes are not totally reliable for determining student interest. The data only shows filled sections, not how many students might enroll in a course if more sections were available.

It was also stated that quantitative literacy had been questioned at the open forum and what was actually meant by that category on the curricular structure draft. It was suggested that the specific learning goals be listed on the structure draft.

CGEIP representative reported on the last CGEIP meeting, which consisted mainly of course reviews.

STRUCTURE

There are 3-5 more hours that should be added to the draft. In the current curriculum, the 2-hour Intro to University Life course is not part of the 42-hour gen ed block. If those two hours in the recommended curricular structure draft are not included in the 42-hour block, then another 2 hours could be included.

Things to consider including in the curricular structure are service learning, co-curricular report card, issues course, history and the Missouri law, any input that is given at the open forums and writing. Another issue to consider is communication; one Task Force member raised questions

about that topic. In particular, the question was about whether learning outcomes in that area might be met by communication in a language other than English.

Language study could be an option under culture competency rather than the basic skills of oral and written communication.

It was also stated that if a recommended university life course is to focus on Public Affairs, then it probably should not be waved. Juniors wouldn't be expected to take a GEP 101 class, but possibly another 1 credit hour class would be decided upon that could cover the Public Affairs issues.

The Task Force was reminded that there are 3 hours that need to be added to the structure. Those three hours could be one of three classes: an issue's driven class, a second class of history and political science or a global cultural competency class. Everyone was reminded that the revision needs to be implemented by 2014 and a structure draft needs to go to CGEIP & Senate soon. The last time gen ed was reviewed, it took 11 Senate meetings to approve the new curriculum.

It was suggested to split Critical Inquiry and Creative Thinking and Expressions category to make those a total of 6 credit hours by adding three more credit hours in the Foundations sections. It was suggested to work further with the 4th bullet in the "Foundations" category.

III. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 3:00.

The next meeting will be Thursday, April 19, 2012, at 2:00 p.m. in FCTL.