

First-Year Council Meeting
Friday, Sept. 6, 2013

Members present: Crystal Gale, chair, Scott Handley, Cheryl Wrinkle, Clay Franklin, Thomas Lane, Jim Moyer, Mike Wood, and Tracey Glaessgen.

Meeting was called to order at 3:00pm.

Welcome to our newest member, Dr. Clay Franklin.

Approval of minutes from last meeting (April 5, 2013):

- Scott called for a motion to approve the minutes as submitted; Jim seconded; motion passed unanimously.

Updates from Director, First-Year Programs:

- For fall 2013, 2526 first-year students enrolled
- 88 sections (including 2 for On-Campus/On-Track, 17 service learning, 4 curricular learning communities, and 4 living learning communities)
- Of the 88 sections, 54% of paid sections are taught by faculty and 46% of paid sections are taught by staff (19% of total sections taught by staff and graduate teaching assistants as “part of job” duties)
- Common reader selection committee is soliciting book titles for 2014-2015, Public Affairs theme The Ethical Citizen. Nomination deadline of October 1, 2013
- Effective spring 2014, GEP 101 will lose dedicated classroom space in Madison Hall (due to demolishing of building) and Pummill Hall (due to HRA relocating from Professional building)
- Blackboard retention pilot: Of the 11 instructors who expressed interest in this pilot program, only 4 participated in training, with an additional instructor withdrawing following training (may be related to Bb problems this semester).

Curricular Proposals

- Slight revision of GEP 101 description suggested
 - o Add “not open to non-degree seeking students” to catalog description for clarification
- FYC to create variable content course. Zero to 3 credit
 - o Rationale—allows FYC to maintain the integrity of GEP 101’s course goals and objectives and to ensure that students are receiving the content when it is needed
 - o Rationale—allows other departments to a course for their means (e.g. ELI sections, MLS scholarship, dual-credit, etc.)
 - Motion was made by Cheryl not to support the dual credit offering of GEP 101; seconded by Clay.
 - Discussion followed—concerns were made that the dual credit offering seems to be supported by higher administration.
 - As a result of the discussion, Cheryl removed her motion; Jim seconded.
 - Jim made a motion for FYC to express that it has strong reservations about the course being used for non-degree seeking students and FYC offers a new course for their purposes. Scott seconded. As a result, Mike and Tracey will begin drafting a document and will receive input/guidance from FYC.
- Subcommittees
 - o An immediate subcommittee that was formed is to assess high-impact practices (CLC, LLC, SL) with Crystal and Clay.
 - o Other subcommittees will be formed as needed to accomplish necessary tasks.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:01pm.