



GENERAL EDUCATION COUNCIL

MINUTES

February 3, 2004

- Present: Robin Brewer, Jimmy Dunn, Helen Gerretson, Emily Golson, Gary Huffines, Phil Klein, Marie Livingston, Barb Lowenbach, Jani Malkiewicz, Lesley Manning, Molly Mathias, Ken Moon, Kim Pacheco, Tom Trelogan, and James Villalon
- Absent: Eddie Cortez, Sandra Flake, Sherrie Frye, Jim Keaten, and Tracy Sedinger
- Guests: Rich Trahan, Associate Dean of Arts & Sciences and Vinnie Scalia, Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs

Phil Klein called the meeting to order and declared a quorum present.

1. Announcements

James Villalon announced that Eddie Cortez is now the representative for Undergraduate Council and will be attending the General Education Council meetings. James is still the Student Representative Council representative.

The memo, dated January 28, 2004, regarding courses being deleted from General Education was handed out to the committee. Phil Klein reported that 12 courses were deleted. This motion was taken care of via e-mail and the results of the vote were 10 for and 8 not voting. The motion passed and a memo was forwarded to Rich Trahan from Phil Klein to be forwarded to the Provost's office for deletion of these courses from General Education.

On February 6 there is a Leadership Forum for Charting the Future from 8:30 – 12:00. Phil Klein has classes during this time and needs a volunteer to go. Emily Golson volunteered to represent the General Education Council.

Phil Klein also needs a person or persons to represent the Council at the Academic Policy Committee and Faculty Senate meetings (due to the fact he has classes during these two meeting times). James Villalon already attends Academic Policy Committee and will also represent the GEC. Gary Huffines volunteered to attend the Faculty Senate meetings.

There is a new campus-wide award called Initiatives in Assessment. Sandra Flake would like to nominate the General Education Council for this award. She would like to know if anyone has presented on assessment or published anything and if so she would like to have a copy for the nomination. Emily Golson and Helen Gerretson have presented numerous times and Emily will send their presentation materials to Sandra.

2. Approval of Minutes

Tom Trelogan had three minor changes and Emily Golson had one to the minutes of December 2, 2003. The minutes were approved with the corrections. Motion passed.

3. Dean's Report

Rich Trahan informed the committee about the presentation that the College of Arts & Sciences made to the Charting the Future Design Team on 1/23/04. There were three standard questions that each college had to answer one of which included general education. One concern of Sandra's was the number of general education courses offered. A solution could be to ultimately drop those courses not offered frequently. They also received a number of individualized questions that were tailored specifically for them and one of those questions was:

Why should Arts & Sciences administer the General Education program at UNC? How does that structure relate to other colleges? What are the alternatives for administrating General Education? Their responses were:

1. Historical – constitutional amendment from Faculty Senate
2. The model that went forward at the time was the Undergraduate Council and Graduate Council would report to the office of the Provost and that PEC and GEC would report to their respective deans. The Dean of Arts & Sciences would work with administration regarding the GEC.
3. In Arts & Sciences we do enrollment management in regards to general education courses.
4. Talked about the General Education Council working with the Dean's Office and how the GEC does the assessment of courses, approval of new courses, deleting of courses, etc. of general education.
5. Agreed that this is the model on this campus and there are certainly other models on other campuses.

4. Area Committee Reports

-ENST Courses

Skills Area #1 – Composition

No report at this time.

Skills Area #2 – Mathematics

Helen Gerretson reported that Skills Area Committee 2 met and discussed a proposal from the Math Department for MATH 182 – Fundamentals of Mathematics II to be changed from 2 credits to 3 credits. The committee recommended the modification as it will be a positive change for the students. Helen Gerretson moved and Robin Brewer seconded to approve. Motion carried.

Skills Area #3 – Physical Activity

No report at this time.

Content Area #4 – Arts & Letters

Tom Trelogan reported that the Content Area 4 Committee had approved a change in ENST 385 - Art and the Environment to be changed from 2 credits to 3 credits. The committee recommended the modification as it will be a positive change for the students.

Tom Trelogan moved and Jimmy Dunn seconded to approve. Motion carried.

Content Area #5 – Social Sciences

No report at this time.

Content Area #6 – Science and Mathematics

Kim Pacheco reported that the Content Area 6 Committee had approved a change in ENST 235 - Chemistry and the Environment to be changed from 2 credits to 3 credits. The committee recommended the modification as it will be a positive change for the students. Kim Pacheco moved and Marie Livingston seconded to approve. Motion carried.

Kim Pacheco also had two questions for the Council regarding follow-up for courses that have passed review, as to who contacted the department with feedback. Emily Golson stated that this had been brought up before and she felt the General Education Council should address this issue. Phil Klein agreed and will put it on as a future agenda item for the Council to consider. Kim's second question had to do with assessment training and if there was money available for training. Rich Trahan stated that he would check with Sandra Flake and get back to the committee with an answer.

Content Area #7 – International, Interdisciplinary, and Multicultural Studies

No report at this time. Via email, Jim Keaten reported that he has called a meeting of the committee to discuss the area's student learning objectives and to make headway on the backlog of Course Reviews.

4. State Transfer Core Update

Handed out the questions for Jett Conner and the courses approved for transfer from Fall 2003. New submissions for state transfer are due to GEC by March 24, 2004. A memo was sent out to the different colleges at UNC stating which courses are not represented on the state transfer core list and suggesting that courses from the appropriate areas be submitted for approval. Phil Klein asked the Council what part if any they wanted or needed to have in the transfer process. Emily Golson stated that the Council should at least have a look at the generic syllabus of each course being submitted for approval.

Based on Jimmy Dunn's draft, Phil Klein will draft a letter to Jett Conner, asking him to attend one of the spring General Education Council meetings, with Allen Huang's signature. Vinnie Scalia believes we should get Jett Conner soon and that the Council should use him as a consultant to work with us. Phil Klein will circulate the draft of the letter before he sends it on to Allen Huang's office.

Marie Livingston /Helen Gerretson moved to adjourn. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Submitted by

Sandy Pope
Recording Secretary