

UNIVERSITY of
NORTHERN COLORADO



**GENERAL EDUCATION COUNCIL
MINUTES
February 7, 2006**

Present: David Caldwell, Annie Epperson, Keiko Krahnke, Barbara Lowenbach, Steve Mazurana, Kim Pacheco, Tom Trelogan, Ben Varner, Stephanie Wiegand, and Sharon Wilson

Absent: Pat Graham, Joe Liefer, Jani Malkiewicz, Tracy Salter, Lorie Sauble-Otto, and Sharon Zill

Tom Trelogan called the meeting to order.

▪ Announcements

Pat Graham, the HHS elected representative, will resign from the Council because of health issues. She sends regrets on not being able to fully participate in the Council this past semester.

Two candidates for the Assistant Vice President of Undergraduate Studies will be visiting campus on February 20-21, and 27-28. The General Education Council will meet with the candidates from 3:00 – 4:00 on February 20th (UC Council Room) and 27th (UC Spruce A & B Suite).

MIND 181 was nominated for Area 3c, Ways of Thinking (not Category 3b, Literature), so CCHE was justified in placing it in Ways of Thinking

The following courses were accepted by the Council into the Liberal Arts Core Curriculum (online votes in parenthesis): ANT 212 (10/0), MUS 143 (11/0), COMM 223 (11/0) – this was simply a course number change from 323 to 223. ASLS 160, CHIN 101, and CHIN 102 did not receive enough votes to pass via email.

▪ Approval of Minutes

Ben Varner/Annie Epperson moved to approve the minutes of the January 17th meeting. Motion carried.

- Reports

- Provost's Office/GE 25 Report

- David Caldwell gave a report on the recent GE25 meeting.

- Vicki Leal has ruled that the statewide transfer policy should be read as flexible enough that a university is not required to accept a gtPathways course towards the satisfaction of major requirements even if the course might arguably be seen as satisfying both general education and major requirements. If the faculty of the major program judge that it would be detrimental to the student's academic experience—i.e., not in the student's best interest—to credit the course toward the major, they may decline to accept it as satisfying the requirements of the major. The question arose over an online community college course in music history that a student asked to have accepted in lieu of MUS 244—which actually isn't even a gtPathways course. The music history faculty felt that an online course did not meet the needs of music majors in this case. This decision is a precedent that future cases of this nature may depend upon for settlement.

- Commission on the University Experience Report

- None

- gtPathways Update

- None

- Adoption of the New General Education Program (Liberal Arts Core)

- Provost Huang has approved all of the proposals agreed upon by the Council except for the statement “Up to nine semester credit hours of the courses listed above that can be used to satisfy the requirements of a student's first major and that carry the prefix of that major may also be used to satisfy the requirements of the Liberal Arts Core.” Tom Gavin is reviewing this portion and will notify the Provost of his recommendation on the matter.

- Old Business: New Courses

- 1. ASLS 160

- ASLS sent a new syllabus and course description. The Council questioned whether or not an adequate portion of the course content was based on a social science view. Motion to include the course in the Core did not pass (0/10).

- New Business:

- 1. Area 7 – International Studies

- CHIN 101 and 102 were discussed previously online, but not enough members responded by voting. At today's meeting, the motion to include these two courses in Area 7 carried (10/0).

- 2. The CUE has recommended that the Council consider implementing a theme each year for the Liberal Arts Core. Faculty teaching Core courses would be encouraged to include the

theme in the general education courses across the curriculum, but not required to do so. Ideas discussed included devoting part of the General Education Council Web site to the theme and related events occurring on campus, notifying SRC so they could incorporate the theme in their program planning, and asking for support from the Provost's office for outside resources.

Possible themes passed on by the CUE included Media and Society, Ethics and the Environment, International Connections, Communication in Modern Society, Chemistry of Living, Truth, Death, Love, War, Evidence, Diplomacy, Water, and Risk.

Ben Varner/Steve Mazurana moved to pursue the idea of incorporating a theme and discuss it at the next Council meeting. Motion adopted by unanimous consent.

Stephanie Wiegand/Annie Epperson moved to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Pacheco
Acting Recording Secretary