**General Education Committee Meeting**

**Minutes 4-10-2023**

**Members in Attendance**: Sally Fiscus, Julie Henderson, Linnea GlennMaye, Mathew Muether, Roy Myose, Angela Paul, Sandra Sipes and Jan Wolcutt

Guests: Ashlie Jack, (UCS) Patricia Phillips

Absent: Mark Barlow, Gina Crabtree, Natalie Delacruz, Robin Folkerts, Kylie Johnson, Brittany Lockard

**WELCOME:** Mathew Muether

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM 3-27-2023 MEETING:** It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes. Approved: 6-0.

**PREPARING FOR ASSESSMENT REPORT** The report is due April 25

***Discussion with UAC- Ashlie Jack***

* Ashlie commented that since the Gen Ed program had not changed, the report should be done in the same way as in the past, and that she can get any data needed. The focus should be on the service that Gen Ed provides to every degree.
* The committee will be particularly interested in whether FYS courses increase persistence, so the report should include data related to persistence and FYS courses. FYS will be required of all students in the next year, so there will not be a built-in control group of students who did not take FYS courses. The committee needs to develop metrics to measure success of FYS.
* Some programs, like business and specific engineering programs, require students to take first year courses that have specific content related to the program as well as an FYS course. The metrics will need to sort out what effect content specific programs have related to student persistence.
* NESI, a national student engagement survey given in the 1st year, and CLA (Collegiate Learning Assessments) are being administered this year but are listed as NA for 2022. Ashlie will get the data for the committee.
* Roy and Sandra Sipes attended the panel presentation last Friday. Three high school teachers from the Wichita area were discussing what faculty can expect from incoming students next year. They indicate what many faculty have already seen in current students: extremely low levels of engagement from incoming students-don’t read emails, etc. Andrew Moses in the athletic department shared with Sandy Sipes that they have seen that student athletes that had to attend class virtually during Covid tended not to come to class.
* INS is a tool used for advising that gives an at-risk score for incoming students. Advisors give special attention to these students, like not putting them in high WDF courses, putting them in courses with SI instructors, and connecting them to other appropriate services.

***Meeting with LAS Advising- Patricia Phillips***

* The committee is concerned whether Gen Ed classes are satisfying the needs of students. Patricia reported that there have not been any problems finding Gen Ed courses that are at a good time, that students are interested, and that will benefit students in their careers. Students are satisfied with the selection of Gen Ed classes.
* A lot of science majors question the benefits of taking Fine Arts Gen Ed courses. The advisers explain that Gen Ed courses strengthen reading comprehension, writing skills, analytical skills, and other skills that all graduates will need in their careers.
* One Stop advises incoming students, then are handed off to the college advisors. There were issues in LAS because they had no advising requirement, so students did not come for advising. Recently LAS added the requirement that all students with less than 60 hours must see an advisor. There is a PIN that must be released before they can register. Note that LAS advises students NOT to complete all GEN ED requirements the first 2 years, so they have courses to counterbalance the more difficult courses in the last two years.
* There are many students who come in with certain majors but then change. Many times, it is because of the Gen Ed courses.
* Patricia is worried that the new Gen Ed program will result in students NOT taking any in-depth courses.
* Transfer equivalency system: Transfer courses that are not claimed by a specific department are sent to Patricia for evaluation. She needs help with Introduction to Science from Colorado Technical University. The issue is that it has gen ed attributes, but is interdisciplinary (chemistry, physics, biology, and geology), so it does not have a “home.” Usually, these courses do not carry gen ed attribution. Since courses are evaluated for the institution, not for individual students, it is important to assign Gen Ed attributes correctly, especially given that the new Gen Ed program only requires one science course. Patricia therefore brought this course to the committee. Sally pointed out that if the Gen Ed committee decides to take on the job of deciding whether these types of courses should be designated Gen Ed, it will add 30-50 per year to the workload. Typically, the Registrar’s office does these evaluations, so the committee decided to send this course back to the Registrar’s Office, as they are accustomed to giving Gen Ed attributes to courses that are not equivalent to a WSU course.

***COURSE PROPOSALS***

**PHIL 353: Philosophy of Espionage and Secret Intelligence**

* The assignments still are not tied to the Gen Ed outcomes in the syllabus. The instructor need only put what he has on the CIM form, but he has not done it. The committee sent it back for him to do that.

**FYID 102A: First-Year Seminar: WUtopia - The 15 Minute City**

* This course has the discipline division listed as social sciences.
* The course was approved 5-0.

**FYPS 102A: First-Year Seminar: Myth-Busting the Model Minority: Asian American Experiences**

* ***Tabled due to lack of time.***

**FYSP 102A: First-Year Seminar: My Community and I**

* ***Tabled due to lack of time.***

***NEXT MEETING***

* Next meeting: April 24
* The draft report will be posted in the share drive.
* The committee will vote on the leader for the next year at this meeting.

***ADJOURNMENT***

The meeting ended at 2:01 pm.