***General Education Committee Meeting***

***Minutes 9-23-2024***

***Members in Attendance***: Brett Bruner, Samantha Corcoran, , Natalie Delacruz, Sally Fiscus, Linnea Glenmaye, Julie Henderson, Ashley Jack, Josh Mallard (Student Rep), Carolyn Shaw, Sandy Sipesand Jan Wolcutt

Absent: Brittany Lockard (Chair), Angie Paul

***WELCOME*:** Chairman Brittany Lockard was having technical difficulties that were not expected to be resolved by the time of the meeting and asked that the meeting start without her. Since Liberal Arts had all the course proposals, Carolyn Shaw agreed to lead and started the meeting at 12:31 pm.

***COLLECTION OF CLA DATA on GED ED COURSES***

* Dr. Ashlie Jack discussed the CLA (Collegiate Learning Assessment), an assessment that measures critical thinking skills.
* The data from this assessment is used for the General education and HLC reports. The assessment committee saw that there has been a decline in the number of students completing the assessments and instituted various incentives to try to increase the participation and effectiveness of data collection. The goal is at least 50 freshmen and at least 50 seniors.
* The obstacles are that the CLA takes 60-90 minutes, and that it is not part of the student’s grade, so the only current incentive is that students can get a $25 QT or Shocker card in return for doing the assessment.
* Dr. Jack asked for ideas. The committee suggested making the CLA part of first-year seminars, or as a requirement in a class all students must take (Comm 111, for example); increasing the monetary reward; providing a scholarship, or putting the names of students who take the assessment into a random drawing for a $500 scholarship.
* After the HLC visit in 2 years, the assessment committee is looking into ways to leverage the new LAS Competencies to assess learning rather than continuing the CLA.

 ***APPROVAL OF MINUTES***

* It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes from the 4.22.24 and 9.9.24 meetings, as corrected. (The minutes stated POLS 312 requires Engl 101 and Engl 102, and it does not). Motion passes. 7-0

***SELECTION OF COMMON READ***

* This is not urgent, so the discussion will be postponed until the October meeting.

***COURSE PROPOSAL REVIEW***

* + - Reminder: Committee members can preview proposals by going to MyWSU🡪 Faculty/Staff🡪 Courseleaf (CAT and CIM), right side of page🡪 Courseleaf Approval Page. Once there, at the top, choose “General Education Committee Chair” as your role to see a list of pending courses.

The committee reviewed the following courses:

* + - GERM 224: Intermediate German

The prerequisite had been GERM 210, but the basic language sequence has been changed. The request is that GERM 204 be the new prerequisite. It was moved and seconded to approve the request. Motion passes 6-0

* POLS 360 Human Rights

The department wishes to add an honors section of POLS 360H. The non-honors course is already a Gen Ed course. It was moved and seconded to approve the request. Motion passes 6-0

* PSY 534 Psychology of Women

The course was cross listed as WOM S 534. The WOM S cross listing must be eliminated because WEIS is changing from a department to a program. It was moved and seconded to approve the request. Motion passes 6-0

Dr. Shaw noted that the syllabus did not list the differences in expectations and requirements for undergrad and graduate students, but the previous instructor no longer teaches the course, so changes could not be made. A note was made in CIM. Linnea addressed the LAS Committee’s concern about ambiguity in the Curriculum guidelines and the Syllabus template regarding the differentiation between UG and GR requirements in 500-600 level courses. Linnea said the ‘curriculum change guidelines’ on the Acad Affairs webpage are found in the Catalog and are directly taken from KBOR policy.  She agreed with our interpretation that it would be hard to have “different expectations” for graduate students without having different learning outcomes and/or assignments as specified in the syllabus template.  She is going to visit with Gina Crabtree to see if we can’t add the template language to the catalog to expand on the KBOR language that is already there. This should make it clearer in the future.

**DISCUSSION OF SUBCOMMITTEE FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

* Due to Brittany’s absence, this discussion will be postponed until the October meeting.

***AS MAY ARISE***

* Linnea will invite representatives of the ENGL and MATH departments to explain the new Pathways for their basic courses required of all students.
* Student representative Josh Mallard notified the committee that there is a proposal to request that instructors’ syllabi be uploaded to Banner 9 for schedule building. The intent is that this will give more information about course expectations to students when they enroll. However, the registrar will be implementing new registration software, so it may or may not be possible to do this. Josh will contact Gina Crabtree for information. It was also noted that with multiple sections of a course, uploading one syllabus could be very misleading to students enrolling with a different instructor.
* Links that say they go to the full list of Gen Ed courses go to the buckets’ requirements and students are expected to know to click on the gray buckets at the top of the page to get the full list of Gen Ed courses. It would clearer if the link was to this page directly: <http://catalog.wichita.edu/undergraduate/academic-information/general-education-program/general-education-courses/>

***NEXT MEETING:***

* October 13 is Fall Break, so the committee will not meet.
* The next meeting will be Oct. 28. There had been a proposal to meet in person, but several committee members said this would be difficult for them. The committee will meet via Zoom, as usual.

***ADJOURNMENT***

The meeting ended at 1:21 pm.