MINUTES
General Education Committee
November 17, 2014
2:30-4:00pm
VL216

Members present: Stephen Contakes (Professor of Chemistry), Bruce Fisk (Professor of Religious Studies), Michelle Hardley (Secretary and Registrar), Thomas Knecht (Professor of Political Science), Tatiana Nazarenko (Chair and Dean of Curriculum and Educational Effectiveness), Jana Mullen (Digitization and Instruction Librarian)

Absent:

Others present:

I. Opened with Prayer

II. The minutes of the November 3rd meeting were approved

III. COM-135 Submission Form – Add to Competent Action: Research
The GE Committee discussed the proposal. The course was approved with no corrections. This change will become effective starting Spring 2015.

IV. Update on Understanding Society
The faculty teaching Understanding Society courses produced a revised version of the language and are in agreement that this should be the certification criteria for the area.

The revised language was approved and the GE Combined Document will be updated.

V. Update on Performing and Interpreting the Arts
The faculty teaching in the Performing and Interpreting the Arts are working on the language within the GE Certification Criteria. There were a number of questions that arose for those who teach in the area regarding the certification criteria. The committee discussed some of the issues the faculty raised.

Bruce will take this information back to the group and will bring back their thoughts at a subsequent meeting.
VI. **Oral Communication Requirement**

The committee gave feedback on how the Oral Communication requirement could be defined, implemented and evaluated. The likely place for this ILO to be evaluated would be within each department so that Oral Communication could be assessed within the context of a major and that major’s audience.

As an initial step, Tatiana will contact the departments who have Oral Communication as one of their program learning outcomes to see how they define, implement and evaluate their effectiveness. This information will be brought back to the GE Committee for further discussion.

VII. **From Academic Senate: Examining the Implications of Requiring Any 2 WSI Courses Versus One in the Major and One Out of the Major**

A brief discussion was held on the issue of allowing students more flexibility on how they complete two of the three WSI courses. One suggestion was to reframe the idea of “outside the major” to reflect a broader difference of writing types (lab reports vs. research papers vs. poetry) which could take place within the same discipline. Issues of maintaining the focus of the general education program and implementation of any changes were considered.

We will continue this discussion at a future meeting.

VIII. **Social Entrepreneurship Submission Form – Add to Competent Action: Research**

We will take up this discussion at a future meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Hardley
Registrar