MINUTES
General Education Committee
February 25, 2015
2:15-3:45pm
Montecito Room

Members present: John Blondell (Professor of Theatre Arts), Stephen Contakes (Professor of Chemistry), 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 January 28th meeting were approved

III. Report on the AACU General Education Conference – Tatiana Nazarenko
Tatiana prepared a report of her attendance at the recent AACU conference. She reviewed the topics from some of the sessions she attended. Of note were some of the different GE programs she presented from other colleges and the panel discussion she attended on colleges who had recently revised their GE program.

IV. Quantitative and Analytical Reasoning Assessment Plan – Steve Contakes
The certification criteria for the Quantitative and Analytical Reasoning GE area have been modified. Steve will now begin working on soliciting more courses for this category based on the new criteria. Steve was looking for suggestions on how to do this. The plan is to target specific classes, but then also present the new certification criteria at a faculty meeting to see if others will see their courses as appropriate for this GE category. Steve also consulted with the committee about how to go about collecting data using qualitative literacy and reasoning assessment tool developed by Bowdoin College. Should students be assessed when they enter Westmont? At the beginning of a QAR class? At the end of a QAR class? How can we do this to minimize the time commitment on the classes and on the individual professors?

Committee members should think about these issues and we will continue to discuss this at a future meeting.
V. Oral Communication Competencies
Tatiana handed out 2 rubrics and 2 additional documents related to Oral Communication Competency at Westmont. Before the next meeting members are to read the documents and come prepared to discuss the 3-5 oral competencies we think the entire college might agree would define oral communication at Westmont. Once we compile a list, Lesa and Deborah will look it over and give their feedback. We will then write a proposal to Senate for them to consider. All of this is being done to help redefine Oral Communication at Westmont.

VI. Understanding Society and Performing and Interpreting the Arts Assessment Update
This topic will be discussed at a future meeting.

VII. GE SLOs and Requirements: How they should be Presented in the WASC Self-Study Report?
This topic will be discussed at a future meeting.

VIII. Exempting students from two WSI courses in their major from having a WSI course outside their major.
This topic will be discussed at a future meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Hardley
Registrar