MINUTES
General Education Committee
March 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 February 25th and March 11th meetings were approved

III. Quantitative and Analytical Reasoning Assessment Plan – Steve Contakes
The assessment tool we were going to use is no longer supported by Bowdoin College. The good news is that we have more freedom to use the resource, the bad news is that we will need to take on more of the administrative support than we had originally intended to. There is a possibility of setting this survey up on limesurvey or working with Greg Smith to establish a webform that can also link into Datatel.

Steve will work with Greg Smith to discuss the creation of an online assessment tool.

IV. Oral Communication Competencies Discussion
At our last meeting the GE Committee suggested a number of oral communication competencies. These were presented to and revised by the Communication Studies department. In this meeting the GE Committee provided feedback on the revisions.

Committee members wondered whether this document would mandate the things departments need to assess when they have an oral communication PLO or if they have an oral communication component within one of their classes. It was also noted that recommendations seemed to suggest a formal talk or presentation as the
style of communication versus other kinds of oral communication. Competencies 1 and 2 seem to focus on formal presentations, competencies 3 and 4 leave things more open to other styles of communication.

The recommendation was made to remove the examples of ethically appropriate oral communication within the introduction. Having these items listed there may limit student’s ability to have conversations about controversial topics.

The Communication Studies department will do a presentation to help the college think through how this information can be developed within their majors.

The committee voted to move the proposal to Senate for discussion and approval. If approved it would be brought to the full faculty for discussion and a vote. If approved by the full faculty, Senate will likely give it back to the GE Committee for us to develop certification criteria and assess.

V. PHI-103, PHI-105, PHI-106, PHI-107, PHI-108 Submission Forms – Add to Common Inquiries: Reasoning Abstractly
The GE Committee discussed the proposals. The courses were approved with no corrections. These changes will become effective starting Fall 2015.

VI. Other business
Vertical Sequencing proposal – Will be discussed at the next Senate meeting.
Removing competent action courses from the GE – Senate has moved the proposal to the full faculty for consideration and a vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Hardley
Registrar