MINUTES
General Education Committee
April 24, 2014
1:15-2:45pm
VL218

Members present: John Blondell (Chair and Professor of Theatre Arts), Michelle Hardley (Secretary and Registrar), Wayne Iba (Professor of Computer Science), Rick Pointer (Professor of History), Debra Quast (Director, Library and Information Services)

Absent: Tatiana Nazarenko (Dean of Curriculum and Educational Effectiveness),

Others present:

I. Opened with Prayer

II. The minutes of the April 10th meeting were approved with minor corrections.

III. Update on GE Website Redesign
Work has been done on the website redesign. Debra, Tatiana and Michelle will review the site sometime over the summer. This will allow for changes to be made with the final site ready to go live in the fall 2014.

IV. COM-190SS Proposal
The GE Committee discussed the proposal. The course was approved with the suggestion to be more explicit in the course assignments with how those assignments can meet certification criteria #1 for the COM-190SS students. This change will become effective starting Fall 2014.

V. GE Assessment Priorities for 2014-2015
The committee discussed what priority should be placed on the modest assessment GE areas and which ones should be focused on for the next year.

When the new committee members come in the fall they can make the final determination of what two areas to focus on. It was suggested by the current committee that we focus on Exploring the Physical Sciences in the fall and Understanding Society in the spring.
VI. Recommendations/Closing the Loop: Oral Communication for GE Annual Report

The committee discussed the recommendation from the Oral Communication assessment team.

John suggested writing a memo to next year’s committee to suggest a new descriptions of the Oral Communication area, the development of new certification criteria with an outcome or two for the area and including a few of the recommendations from the committee/assessment team.

Speakers’ resource center - Can we find a model/research other schools to see if they have any speakers resource centers? We may use it to model the creation of something here. This does not need to be a physical space staffed with a student worker (as the Writers Corner has). It could be a virtual presence with a website and resources, plus a link to click to engage with a real person to help evaluate/film possible presentations.

Explicit expectations on syllabi – If we have a part of the grade reserved for class participation, we should be more explicit about what good participation means in our syllabi, especially if it means more than good attendance.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Hardley
Registrar