

## MINUTES

### General Education Committee

March 22, 2022

10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

#### Members present:

Stephen Contakes (Professor of Chemistry), Tara Sturges (Assistant Registrar), Steve Hodson (Professor of Music), Jana Mayfield Mullen (Director of the Westmont Library), Tatiana Nazarenko (Dean of Curriculum and Educational Effectiveness), Greg Spencer (Professor of Communication Studies)

#### Agenda Items:

I. Prayer – Tatiana Nazarenko

II. Approve the Minutes of March 8<sup>th</sup>

The meeting minutes were approved after a minor punctuation change.

III. Reconsideration of PHS-030 *Physics for Future Presidents* for Exploring the Physical Sciences and Quantitative and Analytical Reasoning GE credit

Ben Carlson submitted a rationale document to specify how PHS-030 will fulfill the Exploring Physical Sciences criteria. The committee determined that sufficient evidence was presented, and all members approved the course for this GE certification.

IV. Consideration of RS-129 *Religion and Filmmaking* for Working Artistically GE credit

The committee provisionally approved this course as meeting the criteria of this GE area provided that he provide further explanation in the syllabus concerning how this course and student activities meet the GE certification.

V. Report on progress towards revising the *Biblical and Theological Foundations of Justice, Reconciliation, and Diversity* proposal.

Stephen Contakes handed out a current version of the document to committee members, who will provide feedback via email or a google drive document set up for that purpose. Greg Spencer suggested that the document be presented to Faculty Senate with the proviso that the committee is aware of the document's redundancy of some of the language. The redundancy provides for clarity at this stage with a plan to address and remove repeated language after document approval.

Tatiana Nazarenko proposed sending the current document to Jim Taylor and Michelle Hardley to place it on the agenda for the next Senate meeting.

Tatiana stated that the committee is grateful to Steve Contakes for his work and time spent collecting feedback from faculty while working on this document.

VI. Serving Society Proposal: Discuss proposal to make this a graduation requirement rather than a GE requirement.

The committee reviewed the proposal crafted by Tatiana, who reiterated that WASC supports the removal of Serving Society as a General Education requirement, particularly in light of the JRD addition. A comment from Michelle Hardley on the Google document noted the need for an assessment method for this requirement, whether GE or graduation. Tara Sturges commented that an efficient process would need to be created for tracking purposes other than individual students submitting forms upon completion of this requirement due to the volume of forms anticipated and the resulting time constraints of such a process. Greg Spencer suggested that the committee take the proposal to the faculty forum to inform them that the committee is nearing the proposal stage and provide a space for more formalized feedback.

Action items:

- Steve Hodson will connect with Rick Ostrander to bring him into the conversation and inform Steve Contakes of pertinent information resulting from this conversation.
- Steve Contakes will ask Deborah Dunn for time to present this information at the April 2022 faculty meeting.
- Tatiana will create a survey to be handed out at the faculty meeting. Jana Mayfield Mullen will hand out and collect the survey at the faculty meeting.

VI. Other business

None

Respectfully submitted,

Tara Sturges