

Jan. 15-2015 General Education committee APPROVED meeting minutes

In attendance: *Voting members*: S. Rowe, S. Christofferson, C. Ohale, A. Wise, T. Davis, L. Osika, S. Buck, J. Jackson, E. D. Norris, R. Fielder, M. Germain. *Ex-officio members*: M. Sudeith, *Guests*: E. Gaytan, D. Janssen

1. Quorum reached at 12:30 and meeting called to order by S. Rowe
2. Approval of Dec. 4th, 2014 Minutes:
 - a. Motion to approve previous minutes made by S. Christofferson, 2nd by J. Jackson, unanimously approved
3. Courses yet to be discussed – “the bucket list”
 - a. A comment was made that in the future we will need to decide if CSU would like to make any IAI-assigned GENEd course from another institution count as a GenEd here, even if we don't necessarily offer the same course here.

Discussion of courses:

- b. Social Science: Motion by L. Osika to approve H S 2200, SOC 1110 and SOC/GEOG 1500 as social science Gen Ed courses, 2nd by S. Christofferson
 - i. Discussion: SOC/GEOG 1500 did not have social science box checked on its application form – probably an oversight?...interdisciplinary was checked. Some question regarding assessment – final project was a group project and it was somewhat unclear how individual students would be assessed. Overall, no further action is necessary as interdepartmental assessment process should address this issue.
 - ii. Vote: all yes, one abstention, motion approved.
- c. Fine Arts:
 - i. Discussion: ART 2600 seems quite narrow/specific and is usually full with College of Ed majors in order to get enough GenEd fit in their heavy requirements-one of only two humanities options for elementary ed majors. However, specific programs can set exceptions so that this type of course could be listed only within the program, not on the larger ‘general population’ list. It seems that this situation is similar to the biology/chemistry example we discussed previously where the lower-level genEd science classes would not count towards a major and there was a higher-level course that covered similar material could be counted within
 - ii. Motion to approve ART 2150 as a Fine Arts course was made by A. Wise, 2nd by S. Christofferson.
 1. Vote: unanimous approval
 - iii. Motion to approve ART 2600 by L. Osika, 2nd by T. Davis.
 - iv. Vote: 6 yes, 2 no, 2 abstentions, motion approved
- d. Diversity courses: Note: these courses are already approved in another category (like Soc Science or Eng or humanities). This discussion is only addressing if they fulfill the

diversity –separate form- requirement, and we will use these forms and what is written on them to assess this.

- i. ANTH 1010: Motion to approve ANTH 1010 as a diversity course made by A. Wise, 2nd by J. Jackson
 1. Vote: unanimous approval
- ii. ENG 2210: R. Fielder motion to approve ENG 2210 as a diversity course, 2nd by C. Ohale
 1. Comments in favor: African literary authors address most all of the concepts of diversity included on the form.
 2. Vote: unanimous approval
- iii. ENG 2940: still missing diversity form. Motion made by L. Osika to not approve/eliminate from diversity because missing form. 2nd by E. Norris. Discussion: department is fine to re-submit application at later date. There is also a discrepancy with the IAI listing/number in the catalog—the online catalog doesn't list an IAI equivalency.
 1. Vote: unanimous approval
- iv. SOC 1200 & SOC 1250: S. Christofferson motion to approve both SOC 1200 and SOC 1250, 2nd by E. Norris
 1. Vote: all yes, one abstention
- e. Critical Thinking: Discussion of what the definition of “Critical Thinking” is. Comment: Just because you “apply” critical thinking skills to a specific field doesn't mean that the METHODS are being taught. Usually this entails a significant writing portion, or at the very least argument-forming activities. Another comment: very small number of critical thinking courses available, so if these aren't approved, there would be even fewer choices that fulfill critical thinking requirements for students to choose.
 - i. ECON 1010 and 1020: already approved for Social Science. Discussion: do these really count as “critical thinking” or do they only “apply” critical thinking methods and not articulate them. PHYS2110 – similar comments: is this teaching how to think about physics or is it teaching physics?
 1. D. Janssen motion made to remove ECON 1010/1020 from critical thinking list, 2nd by R. fielder.
 2. Vote: 8 yes, 2 no, 1 abstention, motion approved
 - ii. PHYS 2110 motion by D. Janssen to approve as critical thinking, 2nd by J. Jackson
 1. Discussion: is there a rubric that addresses the critical thinking aspect?—YES.
 2. Vote: unanimous approval

Meeting adjourned at 2:02pm

Next meeting: discuss what to do with studio & performance and communication courses.

Minutes prepared by A. Wise