Chicago State University

University General Education Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, December 6th 2012, SCI 213 at 12:30pm

Members Present: GEC chair Steve Rowe; V-Chair Monique Germain, Secretary Shaila Christofferson, Rosalind Fielder, Asmamaw Yimer, Kamesha Khan, Liz Osika, Sarah Buck, Tiffany Davis, Aida Abraha, Wanda Mahoney, Evelyne Delgado-Norris

Ex-Officio Members Present: Interim Honor’s College Dean and UCCC Chair: Phil Cronce, GEAC Chair: Mark Sudeith, Former GEAC Chair, Geb Mulugeta, Provost Dr. Westbrook

Guest: Dr. Christine List

1. Call to order

2. Minutes: Steve made a motion to approve November ‘12 minutes, 2nd by Shaila, all in favor.

3. Gen Ed Course Review: Steve noted that so far there have been no review applications received.

Liz O.- reviews could be done in stages; if there are 400 applications, there might need to be an initial screening process to determine whether or not the course continues to move forward. Would be best to plan for many applications rather than only a few. Also, using Moodle as a means to organize the files, check lists and tables.

Much discussion by everyone at the meeting about how to form groups, where to start and what concerns were had, such as: starting with the gen ed core courses, equity and workloads, how many people will be on each committee, subcoms should look at a variety of courses instead of specialization, guidelines and rubric, how suitability is defined, etc.

Phil C.- recommended subcommittees for preliminary reviews, and that they might be called “working groups” as opposed to sub/committees. Also that a consensus minimum of 5 or more on each proposed course to pass be required.

Mark S.- expressed the need for GEAC to have veto power or something similar, if a course proposal does not meet GEAC outcomes.

Geb M.-subcommittees can decide if course is sent back to dept, but if proposal is ok, brings course forward to whole comm.

Phil-remarked that only GEC can approve and make formal decisions on gen ed courses and then gives recommendations to the Provost.

Provost Westbrook-commended Steve R. and Mark S. for their leadership in this
process. She noted that one of the final requests from HLC members was to review sample syllabi, and some examples did not have learning outcomes. She stated that we need to make sure all the components are present. In anticipation of future accreditation visits, “let’s get it right the first time”.

Phil C. made a motion: To form 3 subcommittees of members from GEC and GEAC to review the course applications for math, English and foreign language. Each gen ed discipline area under review will be comprised of faculty from various disciplines. 2nd by Steve. 11 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstention, motion carries.

Mark S. cautioned on using up resources of GEAC with not much to offer; would rather send a representative to be on the larger committee, but then would come back to GEAC and look at assessments and act in an advisory capacity. There might be 4GEC + 2GEAC on the working groups.

Chris List: Inquired as to how oral communication skills would be implemented in the general education curriculum? She noted that communication is one of the core gen ed outcomes; how to address this since CMAT basic speech courses are not in the core gen ed curriculum?

Phil C. -adding CMAT basic speech would change the number of gen ed credit hours and impact program offerings.

Steve R. - basic speech is a requirement in IAI, and Illinois-Edwards has two tracks for gen ed requirements.

Liz O. made a motion that Steve shall be the one to determine the composition of each review subcommittee, 2nd by Steve, all approve, motion carries.

Submitted by Shaila Christofferson