

April 2, 2015 General Education Committee APPROVED minutes

Present: A. Wise, S. Rowe, T. Davis, S. Buck, M. Germain, E. Delgado-Norris, R. Fielder, E. Gaytan, D. Janssen, S. Christofferson, J. Jackson

1. Approval of minutes from March 2015 meeting
 - a. M. Germain motion to approve minutes, 2nd by E. Delgado-Norris, unanimous approval
2. Update on nominations & elections for vacant committee positions
 - a. An additional vacancy (now 2 Health Science positions open, due to Quintin Williams' departure).
 - b. As of 4/1/2015, nomination forms were received and signatures were confirmed by S. Christofferson for Art Redman, Joni Jackson and Amber Wise. As per the committee's bylaws, they are now installed as committee members, an election will need to be held for Foreign Language position (Eddie Gaytan vs. Evelyne Delgado-Norris)
 - c. Vacancies still remain: Math, College of Health Science, College of Business,
 - i. In order to fulfill these, announcements will be made to CHSc, COB and Math to encourage them to submit signature forms, first come, first serving on the committee.
 - d. Election process: all tenured or tenure-track faculty within the represented college are eligible to vote. For this case, according to the by-laws, Foreign language falls under CAS
 - e. General agreement is that electronic voting might elicit higher voter response. L. Osika is willing to assist with setting up an anonymous electronic voting option to be emailed to eligible faculty.
 - i. A list of the unit A faculty within CAS will be requested from the Dean, as well as compared to other people's lists to ensure everyone is contacted.
 - ii. Deadline to be determined, but most likely it will be sent April 15, due April 22.
3. Course review process
 - a. Decision on Communications Courses (CMAT 1130, 1140, 2030, ENG2011): a small amount of discussion was had on the Moodle discussion board. 3 options: add 3 credit hours/add a communications requirement, completely leave them off, or figure out some way to fit them in an either/or language situation.
 - i. Program requirements: overall, some (not all) of the CAS majors are the only ones who do not require a communications course. COE has speech requirements, COB also has a speech requirements, CHSc mostly (except for BS nursing) require speech.
 - ii. Three other Illinois universities (Eastern IL, Northeast IL, Northwestern IL) all have communication course requirements and also have more general education credits than we do. We are currently at 36 and the recommendation from IAI is 39, so if we add another 3-credit course, we would be more in compliance.
 - iii. A question: would us only having 36 GenEd credits result in an audit finding?

- iv. Motion made by S. Christofferson: an Oral Communication category should be added to the CORE Gen Ed requirements, and include CMAT 1130, 1140, 2030, ENG2011, 2nd by J. Jackson.
 - 1. Discussion: IAI are only guidelines – we are required to accept transfer student credits if they come from IAI, so it makes sense we align with IAI guidelines.
 - 2. General agreement that this should be a requirement across CSU.
 - 3. Vote: unanimous (9 yes)
- b. Decision on final list of approved courses for all categories
 - i. Comparing the other 3 universities (listed above) our current list is very similar and not longer than the other schools
 - ii. General agreement was that more courses/choices are better. There have been lots of course cancellations in the recent past and we want to ensure that if not all the GenEd courses are offered, the students have choices.
- c. Humanities/fine arts: IAI does not have an embedded designation, They have a Humanities section and a Fine Arts section, and you take 3 credits from each. Currently, our language says “6 from Humanities and 3 must be from the embedded Fine Arts “. Fine arts does not have any other designation. A proposal was discussed to make Humanities & Fine Arts a separate category, and students take 3 credits from each.
 - i. Motion: as part of our approved list, to modify the humanities category to call it ‘Humanities and Fine Arts’ with 6 credit hours requirement, divided as 3 credit hours in humanities and 3 credits in fine arts. 2nd by E. Delgado-Norris.
 - 1. Discussion – our catalog already effectively creates this, it aligns with other institutions, and doesn’t change any credits or requirements- essentially just a language change
 - 2. Vote: unanimous yes.
- d. Motion: The committee will move forward our list of approved courses, and discussion of the list is now closed. 2nd by R. Fielder
 - i. Vote: unanimous approval
- 4. Next meeting: Finals week: May 7th location TBA

Minutes prepared by A. Wise