



**General Education Curriculum Committee
Meeting of February 17, 2017, 2:30**

Minutes

Attending: Barrow, Carden (staff), Cobourn, Cooksey, Desoky, Fernandez, Fuselier, Gilchrist, Hagan, Howarth, Johnson for Walton, Libe, Myers, Pack, Patton, Reynolds, Riedel, Seif, Shanahan, Singleton, Wiggins-Romesburg, Willey, Wright

Absent: Bertacco, Billingsley, Futrell, Partin *Guest:* Caroline Culver (student)

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of January 13, 2017, were approved.

Update on CD Petitions

Wiggins-Romesburg reported that six of the seven CD petitions received in January were approved. One had been denied with a detailed rationale provided to the student. It was resubmitted with superficial changes, and then denied again. Third chances are not given. The subcommittee was thanked by four of the students.

Revision to Function and Structure Document

A motion was made and approved to add to the membership one representative from the School of Public Health and Information Sciences. The program was launched in Fall 2014. Johnson was present on behalf of SPHIS; he will follow up with his unit.

***ACTION:** Carden will update the structure section of the document for posting to the web. Already, the Cardinal Core document has been updated to include a SPHIS representative.

Cardinal Core Planning

Willey provided a handout that summarizes an informal charge from the Provost that should help facilitate a smooth transition between the GECC and the proposed Cardinal Core oversight committee. Although the new program will not be published in the 2017-2018 catalog, the GECC can begin planning with the goal of implementing the new program in Fall 2018.

--Structure of Cardinal Core Committee – To maintain institutional memory and a smooth transition, the GECC recommended that members serve out their current terms through the transition period to the new program, and that new members be elected to the CCCC under the same protocol currently used for GECC. No one had suggestions for additional ex-officio reps.

--Development of a Governance Document – to be determined

--Promotion of Course Development in Gen Ed Departments – Since there is nothing in the CC proposal about how to propose new courses, suggestions were sought. Riedel recommended contacting departments to see which courses they want to move forward (resubmit under the new SLOs) and then provide feedback. In Phase I, this preview of modified content courses could be done early, but the development of the 300-level diversity courses may be aided by special workshops. Singleton and Willey recommended a deadline.

***ACTION:** An e-mail will be sent to each department that is currently offering gen-ed courses. The syllabi of modified courses, linked with the new outcomes, must be submitted by April 14 in electronic format so that the GECC can review them at a working luncheon meeting on May 10. Collected proposals will be posted to a Sharepoint site.

Phase II: Since there are no stand-alone diversity courses under the new program, it was strongly recommended that departments be asked to re-visit their current CD1/CD2 courses to rework them, and also be encouraged to design new diversity courses tied to another gen-ed category. Libe raised the issue of insuring that an adequate number of new diversity courses are proposed to provide enough seats. Diversity courses (double counters) fill up quickly.

Fernandez wanted to know what incentive could be provided. There seemed to be a consensus that the 300-level diversity courses would have good consequences in various academic units.

***ACTION:** Libe, Wright, Riedel, Fernandez and others concurred that a mechanism should be in place for both reviewing diversity proposals and monitoring the number of diversity offerings.

--Workshops to Aid Departments with the Reworking of Long-standing Courses – Willey proposed two workshops to aid departments in thinking through the process of changing their current courses or designing new courses to make them gen-ed certified.

***ACTION:** After spring break, and after the majority of units have approved the Cardinal Core Proposal, two Friday afternoon workshops will be held. Willey and Fusiler volunteered to help lead the workshops. More volunteers will be welcomed once the dates/times are announced.

--Design of Course Approval and Assessment Pieces -- Is a new procedure needed? Does anything need to be changed?

--Transition Between Catalog Years – Wright raised the question of how long old gen-ed codes would be maintained. Riedel asked if students could be grandfathered in to the new program. Willey said that one catch to this approach is the historical perspectives requirement. Libe commented that A&S students can petition to go under a different gen-ed program and that degree audit can track progress. Cooksey thought that while some students might want to change catalog years, others will not. Concern was expressed about the effect on the structure of the major where students cannot pick and choose courses. Willey reminded all that curriculum policies are decided in the unit, policies that some units are currently finalizing. Regarding the notion of providing flexibility through an uncoupling of the catalog year from a student's major, Wright recommended offering model language for the units in order to provide consistency.

Course Substitutions

In response to Libe's question about whether there's a need to code in course substitutions (variances), Willey reminded the committee that under gen-ed policy, there is no process in place to allow for course substitutions. Variances can only be made in rare cases, such as a documented math disability, which requires approval from the Provost. The policy on "no course substitutions" is tied to the SACS Core Standards and CPE and other factors.

Upcoming Meetings

The GECC will not meet in March. The next meeting is set for April 14 at 2:30.

Prepared by Kathy Carden