***General Education Committee Meeting***

***Minutes 4-22-2024***

***Members in Attendance***: Brett Bruner, Samantha Corcoran, Gina Crabtree, Natalie Delacruz, Kimberly Engber (Honors representative, Sally Fiscus, Linnea Glenmaye, Julie Henderson, Brittany Lockard (Chair), Josh Mallard (Student Rep), Matt Muether, Angie Paul, Carolyn Shaw, Sandy Sipes, and Jan Wolcutt.

***WELCOME*:** Brittany Lockard started the meeting at 12:31.

***APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM 4-8-2024 MEETING*:**

* It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes from April 8The minutes were approved 10-0.

***BUSINESS***

***DISCUSSION OF CAMPUS READ***

* The book for the common read has been selected and will be announced on Friday.

***NOMINATION OF OFFICERS FOR 2024-2025***

* Brittany Lockard was nominated for chair and Jan Wolcutt for secretary. Both were elected.

***FACULTY SENATE REPORT***

* The procedure for organizing the report was copying the report from the previous year and updated the various portions as they were completed.
* Minor issues: Carolyn Shaw was identified as representing LAS (Social and Behavioral Sciences) and the spelling for Jan Wolcutt’s name was corrected.
* Linnea added the data from the FYS and David Wright’s data, with David’s note that there wasn’t a large enough sample for statistically meaningful results.
* The library portion is complete, and Brittany will add it when she compiles and submits the final report.

***COURSE PROPOSAL REVIEW***

* No courses were submitted for review.

***GENERAL EDUCATION RECOMMENDATIONS***

* Brittany met with the faculty Senate executive committee, in order to receive feedback on discussion and recommendations from the GE subcommittee. There was no intention to pass off the subcommittee’s recommendations as coming from the whole committee.
* The Fac. Senate Executive Committee declined to place the report on the upcoming Faculty senate agenda and suggested that an update be given following discussion of the subcommittees works with the full GE committee.
  + Subsequently, the draft report was shared by members of ExCom with their constituents and feedback was given to ExCom and GE Committee.
* There was concern that it should not appear as though KBOR is dictating the General Education program, which is the prerogative of the faculty. The Gen Ed program with the buckets is mandated, but which individual courses are given the attribute is not.
* Any course with the General Education attribute that is new or has a change will be reviewed by KBOR on an annual basis and may not be a part of the system-wide transfer process. There has been discomfort with approving 500 level classes and classes with extensive pre-requisites and KBOR has expressed that upper division classes or classes with extensive pre-requisites may not be approved for statewide transfer.
* The Registrar’s Office shared concerns that if the committee approves a course after February 1, and then KBOR does not approve it, a student could take a course thinking that it would count as Gen Ed and then find out that it does not. Although Linnea expressed this would be unlikely.
* Some committee members thought that the subcommittee was only looking at criteria for approving ***NEW*** courses, not making recommendations that change the attributes on existing courses. ~~However, KBOR could veto existing courses with a change, so it is hard to disentangle~~.
* The committee is considering waiting to recommend changes to existing courses until it has experience with the new program to see what courses students are taking. It is hard to collect data on which courses students are using courses to satisfy the General Education program because degree audit may put courses in different spots each time it is run, depending how it best helps the student. However, if nonmajors stop taking 300 level Gen Ed attributed courses after 300-level courses are not required, the point about discouraging 300-level courses might be moot.
* If the committee eliminated 300-level courses, programs have an incentive to change the course number to a lower level, which opens those courses up to be available at the community college level. Now that credit hours are no longer the basis for allocating resources, this incentive may be diminished. Changing 300 courses to 200 level would create a problem with the larger degree audit that requires a certain number of upper division courses to be taken
* ~~The committee was encouraged to ensure that any courses are transferable as Gen Ed~~.
* Program chairs could be encouraged to take a closer look at their gen ed courses in the new academic year and remove the gen ed attribute for any that are no longer appropriate based on initial guidance from GE.
* Brittany offered to withdraw the proposal, but the committee decided to put it for a vote so a clear action could be taken. It was moved and seconded to put the proposal before the committee. The proposal was rejected 0-10
* The criteria for approving Gen Ed courses will be revisited by the full committee in the fall.
* Depending on the agenda, it might be more appropriate to meet in person for some discussions, with a Zoom link for those who must be remote.

***NEXT MEETING***

* This is the last meeting for the semester.

***ADJOURNMENT***

The meeting ended at 1:34 pm.