

General Education Committee
April 18, 2022
Minutes

Present: A.I. Ross, Teri Walker, Michael Braunstein, Tim Hargrave, Maura Valentino, John Choi, Elaine Glenn, Peter Gray, Mike Gimlin, Michael Goerger, and Megan McConnell

Absent: John Neurohr and Brady Smith

Guest(s): Greg Lyman and Michelle DenBeste

Meeting was called to order at 3:11 p.m.

April 11, 2022 minutes – Maura moved to approve the April 11, 2022 minutes. Peter Gray seconded and motion was approved with one abstention.

Teri reported that Provost DenBeste will be joining the committee today to talk about process and communication in regards to assessment and accreditation.

Chair's report – The new General Education website is live. Conversation is continuing regarding future MSL GE course proposal. Teri is working on adding DHC to Gen Ed Assessment Year 3 modules. Teri indicated she is working to get the links to Canvas on the General Education website.

Teri gave a presentation on the General Education Program Assessment Plan. Provost DenBeste indicated she hopes the new Dean of Undergraduate Studies will serve as her liaison on this committee next year. The Provost wants to have a conversation on bringing things together a little more. She does not want General Education assessment asking for something different than the university assessment for the same course. She would like to see one voice for assessment and accreditation. Provost DenBeste pointed out that she does not want to see assessment set in stone, but something more fluid and can be adjusted based on the feedback. Provost DenBeste doesn't feel that outcomes should be going through the Curriculum Committee like they are currently. For assessment to be done properly, it should be fluid and changeable. She is aware that assessment is currently in policy, but is hard to get to real assessment this way and would like to have this conversation next year. She would like to see meaningful assessment. Provost DenBeste will be appointing liaisons on Senate committees again so she will be more aware of what the committees are doing and have better conversation back and forth on what is being done. Provost DenBeste indicated she does not agree with surveys for assessment, as there are so many out there.

Michael Goerger indicated it would be helpful if a staff member could provide information on scheduling General Education courses to see where and how many courses should be offered.

Meeting dates for 2022-23 – Maura moved that the committee meet online with one meeting per month in-person. The first Monday of the month the committee will meet in-person/hybrid. Peter seconded and motion was approved.

Maura moved to approve the 2022-2023 dates. Michael B seconded and motion was approved.

The committee agreed that the General Education proposal deadline should be October 7, 2022. The committee suggested talking about the deadline next fall to see if they want to back the deadline to May.

PHIL 111 – Scott Carlton has provided other “W” courses the students have taken.

59 – Student can be removed. Taking PHIL 111 out will not have an impact on the student.

62 – Undeclared sophomore, that has taken ENG 101 and no other Academic Writing courses. Appears they took PHIL 111 specifically to meet Academic Writing II (AWII). They failed ENG 101 twice. Michael B moved that the General Education Committees (GEC) approves, for this student, that ENG 101 will be used for the Academic Writing I (AWI) requirement and PHIL 111 will be used for AWII. A communication should be sent to the student and their academic advisor that there was an error in their Academic Report (AR) report. PHIL 111 is not an AWII course, however, due to the error the GEC will recognize that this component has been fulfilled, but encourages the student to take an AWII course. Tim seconded and motion was approved, one nay. A.I expressed concern about allowing this and would rather have the student go through the petition process.

43 – Student has one course to graduate. Michael B moved that the GEC approves, for this student that ENG 101 will be used for the AWI requirement and PHIL 111 will be used for AWII. A communication should be sent to the student and their academic advisor that there was an error in their AR report. PHIL 111 is not an AWII course, however, due to the error the GEC will recognize that this component has been fulfilled but encourages the student to take an AWII course. Tim seconded and motion was approved with one nay. A.I expressed concern about allowing this and would rather have the student go through the petition process.

10 – Student was a Philosophy major and moved to Religious Studies. The student failed ENG 102 twice prior to taking PHIL 111. Michael B moved that the GEC approves, for this student that ENG 101 will be used for the AWI requirement and PHIL 111 will be used for AWII. A communication should be sent to the student and their academic advisor that there was an error in their AR report. PHIL 111 is not an AWII course, however, due to the error the GEC will recognize that this component has been fulfilled but encourages the student to take an AWII course. Tim seconded and motion was approved with one nay. A.I expressed concern about allowing this and would rather have the student go through the petition process.

64 – Student seems to have taken this course out of interest. Student currently has 45 credits.

Michael B moved to notify this student and suggest two possible routes. Take an approved AWII class or petition the GEC committee to have PHIL 111 count for AWII. The student can take either route, but the petition needs to show how they have met the AWII outcomes. There is a concern that the student not having an approved AWII course could impact their ability to take future courses that require an AWII course as a pre-requisite.

The committee would like to have additional discussion regarding this student.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:33 p.m.