

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT KEARNEY
GENERAL STUDIES COUNCIL
Meeting of December 4, 2003
MINUTES

Present:

Faculty: Peg Camp, Sandy Cook-Fong, Randall Heckman, Sonja Kropp, Larry Kuskie, John Lillis, Marta Moorman, Chuck Peek, Janet Steele, Kenya Taylor, Ed Walker

Ex officio/non-voting members: Kristi Milks, Bill Wozniak

Absent: Valerie Cisler, Jeanne Cutler, Mary Daake, Allan Jenkins, Karen Malmkar, Glen Powell, Kim Schipporeit, Alicia Spelts

Wozniak called the meeting to order at 3:34 p.m. He said the entire agenda may not be addressed in order to provide time for members of the Council to attend other functions including the SVCAA candidate interview. Some of the items on the agenda were postponed or deleted.

MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 6, 2003 ALREADY APPROVED VIA E-MAIL

A. CD/WI COURSE SUBMISSIONS

1. Writing Intensive:

- a. HIST 441, Modern Latin America (Roger Davis)
- b. CJUS 345, Criminal Law, Web-based (Kurt Siedschlaw)
- c. ELED 373, Elementary Social Studies Methods (Ken Meyers)
- d. ELED 373, Elementary Social Studies Methods (Lynn Johnson)
- e. ELED 370, Elementary Mathematics Methods (Dena Harshbarger)
- f. TE 311, Math Methods I (Dena Harshbarger)

Wozniak indicated that the WI subcommittee recommended approval of item a, conditional approval of item b (pending more information concerning amount of writing,) and approval of Harshbarger, Meyers, and Johnson as WI instructors (since the courses had already been approved.) *Peek (Cook-Fong) moved for approval as specified. Motion passed.*

The WI committee also asked that a better procedure be implemented to allow more time for consideration of the WI submissions. The consensus was in favor of accepting new WI and CD proposals up to the time of the monthly General Studies Council meeting (3:30 on the first Thursday of the month) for formal consideration at the next General Studies Council meeting. Any submissions after that meeting will be considered in the next month's cycle of review. The Council also agreed that emergency instructor approvals as a result of personnel changes do not need to follow the procedural guideline.

2. Cultural Diversity:

- a. SOWK 342, Behavior in the Social Environment II (Nadine Panter)

- b. ELED 373, Elementary Social Studies Methods (Ken Meyers, Lynn Johnson)

The CD subcommittee recommended approval of items a and b. *Walker (Kuskie) moved for approval of a and b. Motion passed.*

B.

C. OLD BUSINESS

- 1. WI Cleanup:

- a. none

- 2. CD Cleanup:

- a. ENG 280H, Utopian Literature (Luscher)

The CD subcommittee reviewed supplemental information about the course provided by Dr. Luscher. Wozniak reported that the additional information was not yet incorporated into the course syllabus, given that only information provided was the letter. *Walker (Kuskie) moved for approval. Motion passed.*

- 3. Notification of new WI course-instructor assignments

- a. PSCI 360, Topics in American Politics (Duffin)

- 4. General Studies Assessment Update:

No report given.

- 5. Capstone Proposal (second reading, materials distributed in November--attached) postponed until next meeting.

- 6. Proposed new General Studies course (second reading, materials distributed in November)

- a. ENG 234, Reading and Writing about Literature

Peek (Taylor) moved for approval of the course as another option in the Fine Arts and Humanities Category under Literary Perspective. Motion passed.

- 7. Changes in GS Political Science courses (materials distributed in November)

- a. Replace PSCI 100GS, Introduction to Political Science (deleted) change to:

- a. PSCI 140GS, Introduction to Comparative Politics

- b. PSCI 170GS, Introduction to Political Thought

- 8. *Cook-Fong (Moorman) moved for approval. Motion passed.*

9. Changes in GS Biology Courses (materials distributed in November)

- a. Rename BIOL 104GS, General Botany to BIOL 104GS, Biology I
- b. Rename BIOL 107GS, General Zoology to BIOL 107GS, Biology II

Steele (Cook-Fong) moved for approval. Motion passed.

10. Changes in Geography courses (attached)

- a. GEOG 104H, World Regional Geography Honors-to be deleted
- b. GEOG 206 and GEOG 207-deletion of catalog reference to anticipated schedule
- c. GEOG 209 Meteorology-addition of P designation
- d. GEOG 305 Environmental Conservation-update of course content and syllabus

Lillis (Steele) moved for approval. Motion passed.

11. Liberal Studies at UNK

- a. Continued discussion
- b. Proposal from Modern Languages (materials forthcoming)

D.

E. NEW BUSINESS

a. **BS Science-related course requirements-proposal from Academic Affairs (revised attachment)**
Wozniak described the history of the Academic Affairs proposal to define the BS Science-related course requirements. Some departments had established these requirements to make the BS comparable to the BA requirements (Language). However, this necessitated the creation of new line in the web-based catalog to accurately list the requirement. The Academic Affairs discovered that Science-related course lacked a clear definition-so the category has been wide open. Wozniak explained that the proposal is being discussed in the College Academic Policy/Academic Affairs committees and that the General Studies Council was included in this discussion. Since the requirement could include GS courses, the issue seemed relevant. It was also mentioned that requiring extra science courses for the BS for all BS programs might encourage students to take the BA.

b. **Proposal for Cultural Diversity Credit for International Experience (attachment)**
Wozniak described the proposal from Dr Rick Miller. He mentioned that the proposal is in its initial stages of development and will be revised. A number of issues were raised including: (a) Is it possible for this credit to piggy-back onto an existing course? (If a student is already taking a course in conjunction with a tour, why should they have to pay more?) (b) Would Church-related trips qualify. Such as missionary trips? And (c) What is the procedure for changing the CD and WI requirements? Wozniak will forward these comments to Dr. Miller for consideration and will inquire about (c).

F. MISCELLANEOUS

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 pm.

G. NEXT MEETING

The next General Studies Council meeting is scheduled for February 5, 2004 in 2122 Founders Hall.