

**General Studies Council Minutes**

**April 3, 2008 Meeting – 3:30 pm.**

**Founders Hall, Warner Conference Room**

**\*\*\* Approved 4/24/08 \*\*\***

**Present: Bethany Hyatt, Sylvia Asay, Deb Bridges, Karin Covalt, Mary Daake, Tommy Hansen, Laurence Hilton, Sonja Kropp, Larry Kuskie, John Lillis, Carol Lilly, Darleen Mitchell, Marta Moorman, Kim Schipporeit, Daren Snider, and Linda Spessard-Schueth**

**Absent: Vijay Agrawal, John Anderson, Jeanne Butler, David Rozema, Tim Hruza and Marta Moorman**

**I. Call to Order**

Director Snider called the meeting to order. Minutes had been previously approved via e-mail.

**II. Reports**

Snider shared a handout and oral report on the February AAC&U Conference in Boston. The keynote address at that conference listed ten teaching practices that yield substantial learning outcomes. UNK employs all ten, although only one (writing intensive courses) is required in the curriculum at UNK.

**III. Open Items**

- a. **Ethnic Studies 101 proposal.** Snider advised that the educational policy committee in CBT was in favor of approving ETHS 101 as a GS course and placing it in the Social Perspective. The CNSS educational policy committee was not in favor of placing ETHS 101 in the Social Perspective, but recommended placement in Personal Development. Interim Director of Ethnic Studies Tami Moore explained that in creating the proposal, the Ethnic Studies Advisory Council reviewed the criteria of the Social Perspective and Personal Development categories and felt that the course fit the criteria of the former. Kuskie / Mitchell moved to designate ETHS 101 as GS and to place it in the Social perspective. Vote was nine yeas, one nay. Motion passed.
- b. **Capstone pilot.** Council members will help publicize the Capstone courses for fall so that students will enroll. Snider will meet with the four instructors of pilot courses to orient them to the GSC's conception of the Capstone to help in their course planning for fall 2008.
- c. **Academic standards and continuous review of GS courses.** The Council continued its discussion of standards that might be applied universally to any course designated GS. To help students understand the rationale of the GS program, a statement of the philosophy and purpose of the program should be on every GS syllabi. The discussion will continue.

- d. **The Council discussed the goals and logistics of regular review of GS courses as mandated in the GSC's mandate and governance document.**

**IV. New Business**

- a. **CSIS 130 proposal. Chair of Computer Science and Information System Sherri Harms explained a requested change from three to four credit hours for CSIS 130GS, Introduction to Computer Science. The change allows for a lab for that course. Mitchell / Kuskie moved to approve. Motion passed unanimously.**
  
- b. **ENG 102 / Foreign Language Option. Presented by Kropp. Students who earn an A or B in English 101 may currently opt to take a 200 level foreign language course instead of taking ENG 102. It was proposed that students who possess a higher level of foreign language competence than the 200 level may take a 300 or 400 course to exercise the foreign language option. The chair of Modern Languages or the director of GS could authorize the substitution. Lilly / Lillis moved to approve. Motion passed unanimously.**

**V. Announcements**

**The NCA focused visit will be April 28th and 29th.**

**VI. Adjournment**

**Meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.**

**NEXT MEETING: Thursday, April 24, 2008, 3:30 p.m., Warner Conference Room, FNDH 1000.**