

General Studies Council Minutes
October 6, 2011 – 3:30 p.m.
Founders Hall, Warner Conference Room
Approved via email 10/28/11

Present: Sylvia Asay, Debbie Bridges, Kim Elliott, Ralph Hanson, Kate Heelan, Daryl Kelley, Martha Kruse, Allan Jenkins, Kristi Milks, Darleen Mitchell, Kim Schipporeit, Daren Snider, Mike Sutherland, Ken Trantham

Absent: Jeanne Butler, Joe Carlson, Mary Daake, Tommy Hansen, Ron Konecny, Jan Moore

Guests: David Rozema

I. Call to Order:

a. Approve Agenda:

Director Snider called the meeting to order and the agenda was approved.

II. Open Items:

a. Oral Communication assessment proposed rubric and instrument:

Hanson/Trantham moved to approve sending the oral communication rubric and instrument forward to the general faculty for comment. Motion carried.

b. Written Communication assessment proposed rubric and instrument:

Kelley/Hanson moved to approve the final version of the rubric and instrument for the Written Communication assessment. Motion carried.

c. Democracy in Perspective – initial feedback on instrument draft:

The Council discussed and revised the Democracy in Perspective common assessment instrument. The general faculty will have time to review and comment on the document. The Council will vote via email.

Mitchell/Jenkins moved to approve sending the revised document to faculty for comment. Motion carried.

Daryl Kelley is not in favor of implementing the assessment instrument this semester as it is bad practice to give an assignment after the course has started.

III. New Business:

a. Philosophy courses in General Studies (David Rozema):

David Rozema discussed with the Council his concerns regarding the criterion used by the Council to approve GS Distribution courses. The criterion states that a proposed Distribution course should be “broadly introductory and temporally or spatially expansive.” He also wanted to clarify the assertion that 300-level PHIL courses that had been proposed for Distribution last year had “unwritten prerequisites.” Council members recalled that he had stated last year that students would have a greater chance for success in the proposed

courses if they had taken lower level PHIL courses first. Rozema questioned the difference between the proposed PHIL courses and other 300-level courses currently in Distribution (CJUS 375, CJUS 380, FSID 351, MATH 330 and SOWK 330). The issue was tabled until the November meeting, giving the Council time to review the courses in question.

IV. Other:

VI. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 4:50 pm.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Thursday, November 3, 2011, at 3:30 p.m., Warner Conference Room.