

General Studies Council

April 4, 2024

3:30 PM, Warner Conference Room

****Formerly the Chancellor's Dining Room, second floor of NSU****

Approved via Email

Present: Greg Benson, Derek Boeckner, Jonathan Dettman, Steve Hall, Megan Hartman, Kate Heelan, Tami Moore, Noel Palmer, Rochelle Reeves, Mallory Wetherell, Melissa Wuellner, Greg Brown, Jessie Bialas, Joel Cardenas, John Gibbs, Beth Hinga, Jacob Howe, Lisa Neal

Guests:

Absent: Whitney Schneider-Cline, Suzanne Maughan Spencer, Mark Ellis

I. Call to order:

- Agenda (approved via email)
- Minutes from March 4, 2024 meeting (approved via email)

II. Business

- Governance Document Revisions
 - Results of Campus Vote to Approve / Don't Approve changes to composition of GSC
 - Results of Campus Vote to Approve / Don't Approve Proxies on GSC
 - Results of Campus Vote to Approve / Don't Approve campus wide vote for name change from General Studies to General Education
 - The proposals and results of the vote will be forwarded to SVCAA for final decision.
- Course reviews to recommend for final approval
 - JMC 363 for LOPER 5: Visual or Performing Arts
 - Benson/Moore moved to recommend, for final approval, JMC 363 for inclusion in LOPER 5. **Yes-10/No-0 Motion Carried**
 - MATH 150 for LOPER 4: Mathematics, Statistics, and Quantitative Reasoning
 - Hartman/Wetherell moved recommend, for final approval, MATH 150 for inclusion in LOPER 4. **Yes-9/No-0/Abstain-1 Motion Carried**

- KSS/NUTR LOPR 126 for LOPER 1: First Year Seminar
 - Reeves/Boeckner moved recommend, for final approval, KSS/NUTR LOPR 126 for inclusion in LOPER 1. **Yes-10/No-0/Abstain-1 Motion Carried**

- Ad hoc committee report and recommendations on restructuring LOPER 1 (LOPR 126) classes
 - Wetherell suggested that it should be clearer in the LOPER 1 proposal that the course can still be team taught. Heelan stated that the course being team taught would be up to the department chair. Hartman asked if the course should be 1/3 learning skills as students come in with varied background or should it be 1/4 learning skills. Brown explained that the goal of the course is not to be content based. Wetherell stated that cutting down the learning skills content would be a detriment to those students who need those skills.

 - Boeckner stated he is concerned that the course will not be interdisciplinary but instead it will be three disciplines. Heelan stated that the proposal is not interdisciplinary, it is a 3-credit hour course taught by one faculty member. Boecker stated there should be no pretense that the course is interdisciplinary. Boeckner asked if it is possible to continue to offer LORP 126 and offer the newly proposed course as well so students can choose which one they want to take. Neal stated there would need to be a new course number and then the Council would need to vote to approve both options. Heelan stated the purpose of the proposal is to integrate the learning skills and if they are going to offer both then the Council might as well keep LOPR 126 and the LNSK courses the way they are. Hartman stated that she likes the proposal and thinks the Council should move forward with it.

 - Wetherell suggested a forum for campus regarding the LOPER 1 proposal to deliver the information. Benson suggested opening the forum to those who already teach a LOPR 126 and not the entire campus. Palmer stated he thinks the entire campus should be informed, not just those who teach LOPR 126. He suggested the proposal should be cleaned up and then taken to each college. Brown stated the Ad Hoc committee could clean up the proposal and then he can schedule a forum for the campus to attend. Boeckner suggested having the forum in two weeks. Brown suggested another option would be to have the Ad Hoc committee clean up the proposal and then give it to Dr. Shaffer to review and get her feedback. Hartman suggested getting suggestions from faculty before the proposal is given to Dr. Shaffer. The Ad Hoc committee will clean up the proposal and an executive summary will be added to the proposal which will be brought to each College to review for suggestions.

- Boecker/Moore moved to grandfather in current courses as long as they fit the format of the proposal. Palmer stated the motion wording is conflicting. Boeckner withdrew the motion.

Howe stated the recipient for the Excellence in General Students Award is Jay Lee for ENG 101. The award will be given out on April 30, 2024, at 5:30 pm at the Student Government meeting.

III. Adjournment: Boeckner moved to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned @ 5:06 pm.

The following was not discussed.

- *Further Governance Document Considerations*
 - *Specification of what the first (approve to send for campus comments) and second (recommend to senior academic officer) vote for course proposals mean (V. Approval of Courses - B. - 3.)*
 - *Removal of courses from the LOPERs GS Program*
 - *Other policy concerns*
 - *Other*

Next meeting: May 2, 2024 @ 3:30 pm, Warner Conference Room (Formerly the Chancellor's Dining Room, second floor of NSU)

General Studies Council
April 4, 2024
Addendum to the Approved Minutes

Results of Campus Vote Regarding changes to the GSC Government Document

1. It is proposed that the composition of General Studies Council be changed to:
Three tenured faculty members each (from different departments) from the College of Education and the College of Business and Technology; four tenured faculty members with one faculty member from each of the four divisions of the College of Arts and Sciences (the four divisions are: Natural Sciences, Social Sciences, Humanities, and Communication and Fine and Performing Arts)

A vote in favor is to approve the new composition of GSC.

A vote against is to retain the current composition of GSC

- COE: Approve: 27, Don't Approve: 0
- CBT: Approve: 26, Don't Approve: 0
- CAS: Approve: 24, Don't Approve: 94

2. A motion to allow proxies to participate in GSC if a regular council member cannot attend the regularly scheduled meeting. The following language will be incorporated into the GS Governance Document under the composition of GSC, voting members.

- Proxies
 - If a voting member of the General Studies Council is going to miss a scheduled meeting, the member can recruit another tenured faculty member to be their proxy at the meeting. This must be communicated to the Director of General Studies by noon on the day of the meeting in order for the proxy to be able to vote.
 - A proxy attending the Council meeting is considered an absence for the Council member

A vote to approve will allow for proxies on GSC

A vote against will not allow for proxies on GSC

- COE: Approve: 25, Don't Approve: 0
- CBT: Approve: 25, Don't Approve: 0
- CAS: Approve 93, Don't Approve: 22

3. A motion to change the name from General Studies to General Education.
 - The name of the LOPERs General Studies Program will be changed to the LOPERs General Education Program across all courses, syllabi, webpages, catalogs, and so forth
 - The name of the General Studies Council will be changed to the General Education Council
 - The title of Director of General Studies will be changed to Director of General Education
 - And so forth

A vote to approve will change the name from General Studies to General Education
A vote against will keep the name General Studies

- COE: Approve: 27, Don't Approve: 0
- CBT: Approve: 24, Don't Approve: 1
- CAS: Approve: 85, Don't Approve: 29