

General Studies Council
March 7, 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, Suzanne Maughan Spencer, Tami Moore, Rochelle Reeves, Whitney Schneider-Cline, Mallory Wetherell, Melissa Wuellner, Greg Brown, Mark Ellis, Jessie Bialas, Joel Cardenas, John Gibbs, Beth Hinga, Jacob Howe

Guests: Trista Lefler, Dean Jares, Nanette Hogg, Jacob Rosdail

Absent: Noel Palmer, Lisa Neal

I. Call to order:

- Agenda (approved via email)
- Minutes from February 1, 2024 meeting (approved via email)

II. Business

- Information Item (no discussion or action necessary). The department of Cyber Systems has made CYBR 103 inactive. It should be removed from LOPER 4 in the catalog.
- Governance Document Revisions
 - Approve / Don't Approve campus wide vote for changes to composition of GSC.
 - Moore/Benson moved to approve to send the changes to the General Studies Council Composition to campus for a campus wide vote.
 - Both Reeves and Wuellner stated that the Ad Hoc Committee felt as a smaller group the Council could focus more on the students. Boeckner asked why the Council should be making a change if the current structure with the new voting policy is working. Wetherell agreed. Brown suggested putting the vote out to campus to find out what the campus vote is and then make a recommendation to Dr. Shaffer.
 - **Yes-7/No-5 Motion Failed (not a simple majority +1)**
 - Approve / Don't Approve campus wide vote for name change from General Studies to General Education.

- Benson/Reeves moved to approve to send the name change from General Studies to General Education to campus for a campus wide vote. **Yes-12/No-0 Motion Carried**
 - Schneider-Cline/Wuellner moved to approve to send allowing proxy votes to campus for a campus wide vote. **Yes-12/No-0 Motion Carried**
- Course review to recommend for final approval
 - BIOL 311 for LOPER 10: Respect for Human Diversity
 - Wuellner/Maughan Spencer moved to approve BIOL 311 for inclusion in LOPER 10. **Yes-12/No-0 Motion Carried**
- New Course Proposals
 - JMC 363 for LOPER 5: Visual or Performing Arts (Melissa Wuellner signed Part 1)
 - Boeckner/Maughan Spencer moved to send JMC 363 for inclusion in LOPER 5 to campus for comment. **Yes-12/No-0 Motion Carried**
 - MATH 150 for LOPER 4: Mathematics, Statistics, and Quantitative Reasoning (Melissa Wuellner signed Part 1)
 - Heelan/Wetherell moved to send MATH 150 for inclusion in LOPER 4 to campus for comment.
 - Benson asked if MATH 150 was going to be another statistics course. Boeckner stated it is not a statistics course.
 - **Yes-11/No-0/Abstain-1 Motion Carried**
 - KSS/NUTR LOPR 126 for LOPER 1: First Year Seminar (Kate Heelan signed Part 1)
 - Dettman stated that he is not sure if the course is multidisciplinary. Brown stated the requirement is that the course has to be from two different prefixes.
 - Schneider-Cline/Wuellner moved to send KSS/NUTR LOPR 126 for inclusion in LOPER 1 to campus for comment. **Yes-12/No-0 Motion Carried**
- Ad hoc committee report and recommendations on restructuring LOPER 1 (LOPR 126) classes
 - Heelan explained to the Council what the Ad Hoc Committee discussed regarding LOPR 126 and the following recommendation that they came up with.
 - *Develop a collaborative approach to teaching the LOPR 126 course. The course would be taught by a faculty and supported by a student support staff member (Example: student affairs or enrollment management professional).*

- *Faculty /department would propose a topic of interest and work with the staff member to provide each student in the course with a sense of community, support related to the transition to college, personal and professional development, and consistent information/education about academic advising (career/major exploration, degree progress, course registration process, etc.) during their first semester*
- *All first-year students would be required to take the Loper 1 their first semester.*
- *Loper 126 would remain a 3-credit hour course.*
- *Faculty would receive 3 credit load and would be required to attend all class sessions.*
- *Staff involvement would be at a minimum of 1 time per week or an average of 15 hours per semester*
- *Faculty and Student Support Staff must attend Professional Development Training*
- *Continual professional development and collaborative initiatives will be provided each year.*
- Benson stated that he thinks that taking the course during their first semester should be “recommended” not “required.” Wetherell stated she thinks there will be good faculty buy-in. Maughan Spencer asked if it is possible to put out a pilot class (1-3 sections) in the Fall of 2024 or Spring 2025. Brown suggested piloting 3 existing LOPR 126 courses as the new LOPR 126 then they would not need to go to campus for approval.
- Hartman/Dettman moved to send the LOPR 126 proposal to campus for comment. **Yes-12/No-0 Motion Carried**
- Proposed LOPER Category Assessment Schedule
 - Boeckner/Reeves moved to approve the LOPER Category Assessment Schedule. **Yes-12/No-0 Motion Carried**

III. Adjournment: Wuellner/Boeckner moved to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned @ 5:10 pm.

The following agenda items were not discussed due to time constraints.

Further Governance Document Considerations

- *Removal of courses from the LOPERs GS Program*
- *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.)*
- *Other policy concerns*

Next meeting: April 4, 2024 @ 3:30 pm, Warner Conference Room (Formerly the Chancellor’s Dining Room, second floor of NSU)