

General Studies Council Minutes
November 1, 2018 – 3:30 p.m.
Warner Hall, Warner Conference Room
***** Approved via email *****

Present: Julie Agard, Sylvia Asay, Karl Borden, Debbie Bridges, Derrick Burbul, Greg Brown, Joel Cardenas, Scott Darveau, Mark Ellis, Aaron Estes, Tim Farrell, Beth Hinga, Katherine Kime, Miechelle McKelvey, Kristi Milks, Kim Schipporeit, Sri Seshadri, Rebecca Umland, Beth Wiersma, Ron Wirtz

Absent:

I. Call to Order:

Debbie Bridges called the meeting to order.

1. Approve Agenda:

Darveau / Seshadri moved to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

2. Minutes from the October 4, 2018 meeting were approved via email.

II. Old Business (Open Items):

III. New Business:

1. Course Proposals (New): Nothing submitted:

Moratorium on new course proposals for 2018-19 AY (approved at 4/26/18 GSC meeting).

2. Assessment and GS Program:

a. Update on Syllabi Collection/Review Fall 2018.

The course syllabi being reviewed were assigned to five Review Teams; each Review Team summarized their findings for the Council. Review Teams reported that most syllabi need only minor revisions to address issues such as: not linking the learning outcomes to the assignments, missing information (e.g., term course offered), missing course descriptions.

Bridges will notify the faculty members and department chairs of the syllabi that need to be revised.

Bridges asked the teams to let her know if they had an outstanding syllabus and she would talk to the faculty member about using it as an example (posting it on Canvas).

3. Review/Revision of General Studies Program:

a. Continuation of Discussions from October Meeting:

Bridges asked the Council to keep the following in mind during the discussion: 1) that they represent their college first, department second, and own personal opinion last; and 2) alignment of the GS program with UNK's mission and the best interests of students.

After considerable discussion regarding possible revisions to the current General Studies Program, the Council suggested the following program:

General Studies – 37 hours

- I. Foundational Core - 9-12 credit hours
 - A. Written Communication (3-6)
 - B. Math (3)
 - C. Oral Communication (3)

- II. Portal Course – 3 credit hours

- III. Distribution - 19-22 hours (includes 3 credit hours for ENG 101)
 - A. Aesthetics (3-6)
 - B. Humanities (3-6)
 - C. Social Sciences (3-6)
 - D. Natural Sciences (4-7)
 - E. Analytical and Quantitative Thought (0-6)
 - F. Wellness (0-6)

- IV. Capstone Course – 3 credit hours

Borden/Seshadri moved to approve the proposed credit hours. (3-6 Aesthetics, 3-6 Humanities, 3-6 Social Sciences, 4-7 Natural Sciences, 0-6 Analytical and Quantitative Thought, and 0-6 Wellness).

Darveau/Borden moved to amend the above motion to include there no longer is a requirement to meet the two disciplines requirement in each of the first four categories. Motion carried.

Amended motion carried.

Darveau/Borden moved to suggest to the Academic Affairs Committee to increase the hours for the comprehensive major from 62 to 70 and to 42 for the program. Darveau withdrew his motion.

Borden/Darveau moved to approve that students be required to complete a GS course that has been designated to meet the democracy perspective requirement. Motion carried.

IV. Other:

V. Adjournment:

Darveau/Brown moved to adjourn at 5:20 p.m. Motion carried.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Thursday, December 6, 2018, at 3:30 p.m., Warner Conference Room.