

General Studies Council Minutes
December 3, 2020 @ 3:30 p.m.
Warner Hall, Warner Conference Room-via Zoom

Present: Sri Seshadri, Sherri Harms, Jeong Hoon Choi, Miechelle McKelvey, Nita Unruh, Doug Tillman, Tim Farrell, Rebecca Umland, Jeff Wells, Joan Blauwkamp, Jeremy Dillon, Joel Berrier, Lisa Neal, Aaron Estes, Beth Hinga, Jessie Bialas, Mark Ellis, Greg Brown, Rochelle Reeves, Joel Cardenas

Guests: Jim Vaux, Amy Rundstrom, Ryan Schmidt, Katherine Kime, Jonathan Dettman, Amanda Sladek, Megan Hartman, Jan Thompson, Ken Trantham, Tami Moore

- I. **Call to order:** Brown called the meeting to order.
 - **Approve Agenda:** Tillman/Seshadri moved to approve the agenda. **Motion Carried**
 - **Minutes from November 5, 2020 meeting (approved via email)**

- II. **Old Business (Open Items):**
 - **Reminder:** The Council approved a suggested timeline for course submissions. Since this will be a busy year, we want to try to manage the workload in reviewing new course submissions and applications to gain final approval for the courses that we provisionally approved for the LOPERs Program in April. The suggested timeline is below:
 - October: Courses proposed to meet LOPERs 2, 3, and 4
 - November: Courses proposed to meet LOPERs 5 and 6
 - December: Courses proposed to meet LOPERs 7 and 8
 - January: Courses proposed to meet LOPERs 9, 10, or 11. (Including stand-alone courses for 9 and 10; courses proposed to double-count for 9 or 10 plus one of the broad knowledge categories (5-8) are requested to follow the schedule above.)
 - February: Courses proposed to meet LOPER 1 (More guidance will be forthcoming on courses for this category)
 - March: Last chance proposals to be considered this academic year (plus revised resubmissions)
 - Departments that are proposing to add a new course to the LOPERs Program, to propose a course to double-count for a broad knowledge category plus LOPER 9 or LOPER 10, or to move to a different LOPER category must follow the course submission instructions - all three parts.
 - Departments that are applying to gain final approval for a course that has been provisionally approved in a LOPER category need only submit a syllabus of record (Part 3), plus the departmental assurance statements. Provisional approval expires at the end of the 2020-21 academic year.

 - Information / Discussion
 - **ENG 102 to 101 Prerequisite changes**
 - Neal stated that the change is going to Academic Affairs. She asked if the Council needs to vote on this change. Brown stated the Council does not need to vote on the change they just need to know about it.
 - Neal stated the ENG 101 ACT score is being changed from 15 or higher to 17 or higher. McKelvey asked what is the average ACT score? Neal stated she thinks

the composite score is around 22 but she is not sure of the English score. Blauwkamp asked if the department or Institutional Research can provide the English ACT score data. Neal stated the English Department can ask for data.

- Hartman stated the justification for the higher score is because those with a score in the 14 area are not doing as well in the course. Students would need to take a departmental/placement exam to determine the course they need to be in. Sladek stated the department does not want to set students up for failure.
 - Wells stated he is concerned about the gap for students who do not need to take the course as they took dual credits. Sladek stated the student would not need to take the course as they took it dual credit.
 - Neal stated Institutional Research can get the English ACT score data information. She stated she would like to see the data to back up the change. Several Council members agreed that it would be helpful to know the number of students that would be affected by the proposed change, but the CAS Educational Policy Committee and/or FS Academic Affairs Committee also should be asking for that information.
- Themed / Special Topics ENG 102 classes
 - Neal stated she has concerns about ENG 102 becoming a special topics course. ENG 102 is not a special topics course now and it would need to state this in the title of the course. She also stated the course would need to offer the same topic in multiple semesters as students who fail the course will need to retake the exact same topic to remove a failing grade. She also stated the topic would need to be broad enough to give all students the opportunity to retake the course if they fail.
 - Sladek stated the department plans to offer the same topic at least every year. All proposed sections will follow the approved syllabus and will be geared towards the same General Studies goals. She also stated the course would be listed in MyBlue with information about what the course topic is.
 - Umland/Wells moved to approve ENG 102 as a Special Topics course. **Yes: 13/No: 0 Motion Carried**
- PHYS Program changes to meet LOPER GS credits
 - Neal stated Physics submitted a proposal which included 42 hours of General Studies credits. Neal showed the example she put together that would get the Physics major under 38 hours combined of General Studies and program-specific requirement credits (as the Council approved at the October 1, 2020, meeting). She stated the department would need to specify which “double-dip” course the students would need to take. Blauwkamp affirmed the Physics Department’s preference that students could choose any GS course that met two LOPER requirements. Neal agreed that flexibility for the students is desirable, but if the students do not double dip then they would be taking 42 General Studies credit hours. Neal stated that the catalog copy could include a statement that lets students know they need to take at least one course that meets two LOPER requirements.

- Berrier stated the department plans to direct students on how to meet the program requirements within the 38-hour limit through academic advising. Dillon suggested adding a statement “see advisor for assistance.”
 - Blauwkamp suggested putting the information on the General Studies website about what courses count for two LOPER requirements. Neal stated that the catalog could have a link to the list of double-counting courses that were approved for that academic year. Rundstrom asked if this information could go on the degree audit as it would help with new student enrollment. Neal stated the degree audit would not list the “double dipping” courses. She stated she will put a footnote under the broad knowledge section about the requirement that students needing to use elective GS credits to complete their major requirements within 38 General Studies credit hours. Neal stated she will come up with a draft of the language and run it by Physics Chair Trantham.
- LOPER 1 Taskforce Proposal
 - Blauwkamp asked Ellis if there could be an agreement from Dr. Bicak and the Deans that settled how the workload issue for the proposed 1+1+1 team-taught seminar would be handled before the proposal went to campus for comment. Without knowing how that will work, faculty comments are likely to center on the same logistical concerns that the Taskforce and Council have been discussing for weeks. Ellis stated this topic is on the agenda for the next Deans’ Council. He stated he will meet with Dr. Bicak and discuss the workload issue with him before the next Deans’ Council. He stated he will report back to the Council after the deans meet on December 15th.
 - Brown stated Dr. Bicak is concerned that the workload issue could hold up implementing LOPER 1. Blauwkamp stated the workload logistics need to get figured out before the Council votes to go forward with this approach. Dillon stated he does not feel comfortable voting on the proposal without knowing the logistics of the workload issue. Unruh stated logistically the workload issue will fall on the department chairs. She stated essentially faculty would be teaching three one credit seminars in one semester. Blauwkamp stated she does not think very many faculty members will want to teach three seminars instead of teaching another three-credit hour course. Brown stated some faculty members could use the one credit hour course to fill up a needed one credit hour in their workload.
 - Dillon asked if the Council needs to vote on the proposal for LOPER 1 or does it get sent to campus without a vote. Brown stated the Council needs to approve the proposal before it can be sent to campus.
 - Seshadri asked if the Council can send the proposal out as a survey and ask faculty how they feel about the proposal. Brown stated if that is what the Council wants to do then it can be done. Blauwkamp stated she does not think a survey would help unless it asked specific questions about support/opposition to different aspects of the proposed seminar.
 - Wells asked how many sections of LOPER 1 would be needed. Blauwkamp stated that the Taskforce estimated 20 sections of LOPER 1 would be needed for Fall and 20 sections for Spring, assuming there are 25 students per section and

- 1,000 incoming freshman/transfer students that do not qualify for a waiver, based on numbers from last year that Neal provided the Taskforce.
- Wells asked what the timeline is to implement this for Fall 2021 as there is currently no scheduled meeting for January. McKelvey stated it needs to get it to campus for review. Reeves stated she is in favor of sending the proposal to campus and then the Council can make changes if they are needed.
 - Reeves/Unruh moved to approve sending the LOPER 1 proposal to campus for comment. **Yes: 12/No: 0 Motion Carried**
 - Brown stated he will send the LOPER 1 proposal to campus.
- Disciplines and LOPERS: Brown stated this needs to be put off until the Governance Document is revised as there are a lot of courses that need to be reviewed/approved/unapproved.
- Review of previously reviewed syllabi that were returned for revision
 - Provisionally Approved for LOPER 7
 - GEOG 106
 - Blauwkamp/Berrier moved to grant GEOG 106 final approval for LOPER 7 and send to campus for LOPER 10.
Yes: 13/No: 0 Motion Carried
 - Provisionally Approved for LOPER 10
 - ETHS 101
 - WSTD 220
 - Tillman/Unruh moved to grant ETHS 101 and WSTD 220 final approval for LOPER 10. Blauwkamp stated the ETHS 101 syllabus still has the old General Studies program language. Tillman withdrew his motion.
 - Tillman/Wells moved to grant ETHS 101 and WSTD 220 final approval for LOPER 10 pending the removal of old General Studies program language from the ETHS 101 syllabus.
Yes: 13/No: 0 Motion Carried
- Course proposals (review for final approval): Approved in the previous GSC meeting for dissemination to campus for comment prior to vote for final approval
 - LOPER 3 (Oral Communication Skills)
 - ITEC 290
 - Seshadri/Choi moved to grant ITEC 290 final approval for LOPER 3.
 - Dillon stated now that he has read the comments from campus he thinks the course needs to be reconsidered. He is also concerned the schedule has presentations for nine weeks of the semester, which is more than half of the semester. Seshadri stated oral communication is a skill and is learned by doing and critiquing other students. Blauwkamp stated there is a lot of practicing and not a lot of faculty teaching. Dillon stated there are too many days dedicated on presentation and not enough on teaching. McKelvey stated ITEC 290 is a different way to learn communication skills. She stated students are still getting feedback from the faculty and students and the course gives students

multiple opportunities to practice their presentations. Choi stated students will get feedback from their instructor.

Yes: 6/No: 7 Motion Failed

- LOPER 4 (Mathematics, Statistics, and Quantitative Reasoning)
 - MATH 115
 - Berrier/Harms moved to grant MATH 115 final approval for LOPER 4.
Yes: 13/No: 0 Motion Carried
- LOPER 6 (Humanities)
 - HIST 111 (Also submitted for LOPER 10)
 - HIST 176, (Currently Approved for LOPER 9, Civic Competency and Engagement)
 - Dillon/Reeves moved to grant HIST 111 final approval for LOPER 6 and LOPER 10 and HIST 176 final approval for LOPER 6.
Yes:13/No: 0 Motion Carried
- LOPER 7
 - FAMS 151 (Also submitted for LOPER 10)
 - FAMS 351
 - Tillman/Harms moved to grant FAMS 151 final approval for LOPER 7 & LOPER 10 and FAMS 351 final approval for LOPER 7. **Yes: 13/No: 0 Motion Carried**
 - CJUS 370 (Also submitted for LOPER 10)
 - Blauwkamp stated she reviewed the application and syllabus and did not see any request for LOPER 7.
 - ***should only be LOPER 10***
- LOPER 9 (Civic Competency and Engagement)
 - SOWK 170
 - Blauwkamp/Berrier moved to grant SOWK 170 final approval for LOPER 9. **Yes: 13/No: 0 Motion Carried**
- LOPER 10 (Respect for Human Diversity)
 - FREN 200, (Currently Approved for LOPER 6; Humanities)
 - FREN 201, (Currently Approved for LOPER 6; Humanities)
 - GERM 200, (Currently Approved for LOPER 6; Humanities)
 - GERM 201, (Currently Approved for LOPER 6; Humanities)
 - GERM 205, (Currently Approved for LOPER 6; Humanities)
 - SPAN 200, (Currently Approved for LOPER 6; Humanities)
 - SPAN 201, (Currently Approved for LOPER 6; Humanities)
 - SPAN 205, (Currently Approved for LOPER 6; Humanities)
 - Blauwkamp/Berrier moved to grant FREN 200, FREN 201, GERM 200, GERM 201, GERM 205, SPAN 200, SPAN 201, and SPAN 205 final approval for LOPER 6 and LOPER 10.
Yes: 13/No: 0 Motion Carried

- GEOG 104,(Currently Approved for LOPER 7, Social Sciences)
- GEOG 206,(Currently Approved for LOPER 7, Social Sciences)
 - Blauwkamp/Tillman moved to grant GEOG 104 and GEOG 206 final approval for LOPER 7 and LOPER 10.
Yes: 13/No: 0 Motion Carried

- HIST 112, (Currently Approved for LOPER 6; Humanities)
- HIST 212, (Currently Approved for LOPER 6; Humanities)
 - Blauwkamp/Berrier moved to grant HIST 112 and HIST 212 final approval for LOPER 6 and LOPER 10.
Yes: 13/No: 0 Motion Carried

- TE 100
- MGT 230
 - Unruh/McKelvey moved to grant TE 100 & MGT 230 final approval for LOPER 10.
TE 100: Yes: 12/No: 1 Motion Carried
MGT 230: Yes: 13/No: 0 Motion Carried

- CJUS 380
- CJUS 370
- SOWK 420
 - Blauwkamp/Wells moved to grant CJUS 370 approval for LOPER 10, CJUS 380 approval for LOPER 7 and LOPER 10, and SOWK 420 approval for LOPER 10. **Yes: 13/No: 0 Motion Carried**

- Review of Provisionally Approved Courses
- Provisionally Approved for LOPER 5
 - MUS 107
 - MUS 347
 - MUS 348
 - Unruh/Berrier move to approve MUS 107 with the revision of the Academic Integrity link and approve MUS 347 and MUS 348 with the inclusion of the broad knowledge statements for LOPER 5.
Yes: 13/No: 0 Motion Carried

- Provisionally Approved for LOPER 6
 - ENG 253 (also newly proposed for LOPER 10)
 - HIST 215 (also newly proposed for LOPER 10)
 - Blauwkamp/McKelvey moved to approve ENG 253 and HIST 215 for LOPER 6 and to send to campus for LOPER 10.
Yes: 13/No: 0 Motion Carried

- Provisionally Approved for LOPER 7
 - ECON 271
 - Dillon stated the syllabus does not describe how the course will meet the objectives. He stated the syllabus needs a description of what they

will be doing. He recommended the syllabus be rewritten and resubmitted.

- Sri/Wells moved to approve ECON 271 for LOPER 7.
Yes: 13/No: 0 Motion Carried

- ECON 100
- ECON 270

- Unruh/Berrier moved to have ECON 100 and ECON 270 rewrite and resubmit the syllabi to include objective “d” for ECON 100 and show the tie to the learning objectives for ECON 100 and ECON 270. **Yes: 12/No: 0 Motion Carried**

- PSCI 280H (also newly proposed for LOPER 9)
- SOC 100
- SOC 250

- Provisionally Approved for LOPER 9
 - PSCI 140 (also newly proposed for LOPER 7)
 - Blauwkamp/McKelvey moved to approve PSCI 280H, SOC 100, SOC 250, PSCI 140 for LOPER 7 and PSCI 280H and PSCI 140 for LOPER 9. **Yes: 13/No: 0 Motion Carried**

III. New Business:

- Course proposals (new):
- LOPER 5
 - ART 377
 - Dillon stated the syllabus had wrong learning outcomes. It lists the old General Studies learning outcomes. Blauwkamp stated the syllabus had the new learning outcomes, but it also included the old learning outcomes. Farrell suggested the syllabus be rewritten and resubmitted.
 - Blauwkamp/McKelvey moved to have the ART 377 syllabus rewritten to remove the old General Studies objectives and clarify the explanation of how the class meets the LOPER 5 objectives and resubmit. **Yes: 12/No: 0 Motion Carried**
- LOPER 5 & 10
 - ART 375
 - Berrier stated the syllabus has the old pregnancy and disability statement and needs updated to the new statements.
 - Unruh/Reeves moved to approve ART 375 for LOPER 5 and LOPER 10 pending updated pregnancy and disability statements. **Yes: 12/No: 0 Motion Carried**
- LOPER 6 & 10
 - SPCH 154
 - ENG 260
 - FREN 205
 - HIST 230

- HIST 231
 - Blauwkamp/Tillman moved to send SPCH 154, ENG 260, FREN 205, HIST 230, and HIST 231 to campus for LOPER 6 and LOPER 10. **Yes: 12/No: 0 Motion Carried**
 - LOPER 9
 - JMC 100
 - PSCI 110 (already given final approval for LOPER 7)
 - Blauwkamp/McKelvey moved to send JMC 100 and PSCI 110 to campus for LOPER 9. **Yes: 12/No: 0 Motion Carried**
 - Items suspended pending completion of course review & Approval
 - Assessment and GS Program
 - GSC Governance Document (College merger and updating GSC Governance Document)
 - Review / revision of General Studies program
- IV. Other:
- Brown asked if there should be a January Council meeting as there are many classes that need to go to campus for comment. Dillon agreed that there should be a January meeting. Reeves, Berrier, and Unruh all agreed as well. The Council agreed to have the January meeting on January 14, 2021.
- V. **Adjournment: 5:20 pm**

Next Meeting: January 14, 2021 @ 3:30 pm via Zoom