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## General Education Subcommittee Minutes, March, 17, 2009

Utah State University

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## GENERAL EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE

### Meeting Minutes

March 17, 2009 - 8:30 a.m.

Champ Hall Conference Room #136

**Present:** Richard Mueller (Chair), Larry Smith, Wendy Holliday, Brock Dethier, Wynn Walker, Vince Lafferty, Shelley Lindauer, Nancy Mesner, Gary Straquadine, Craig Petersen, Dan Coster, Cathy Hartman, Don Cooley, Christie Fox, Stephanie Hamblin, Mary Leavitt, John Mortensen

**Absent:** Grady Brimley, Ryan Dupont, Rhonda Miller, Tom Peterson, Brian McCuskey

#### I. Approval of Minutes

Craig Petersen motioned that the minutes of February 27, 2009, be approved as submitted. The motion was seconded by Dan Coster and was unanimously approved.

#### II. Course Approval

- a. NFS 5410 (CI) – Pending review
- b. APEC 5015 (CI) – Pending review
- c. APEC 5020 (CI) – Pending review
- d. GEOG 4120 (CI) – Pending review
- e. COMD 3100 (DSC) – Pending review
- f. PRP 3050 (QI) – Pending review
- g. APEC 3310 (QI) – Approved
- h. APEC 3010 (DSS) – Approved
- i. APEC 3012 (DSS) – Approved
- j. APEC 3020 (DSS) – Approved
- k. ANTH 2330 (BSS) – Approved
- l. ANTH 3360 (DSS) – Approved
- m. ANTH 3370 (DSS) – Approved

#### III. Syllabus Approval

- a. USU 1330: David Sidwell, Creative Arts – Vince will invite him to teach theater arts or withdraw the application
- b. USU 1340: Victor Harris, Kaelin Olsen, Alena Johnson – Approved

#### IV. Other Business

- a. **CIL Exam.** Dick reminded the committee of our charge to address the student government resolution on the termination of the CIL. He asked for comments or thoughts on the resolution and the CIL pass rate data that had been distributed prior to the meeting. No one was present at the meeting from ASUSU, but members of the Gen Ed Subcommittee felt that the intent of the student resolution to eliminate the CIL exam was motivated by concerns of the validity of the exam, not the \$30 fee associated with it. Gary Straquadine asked that the examination of the CIL exam be referred to the CIL Committee and that they be charged as follows and report back to the Gen Ed Subcommittee in the Fall. The operating principle should be that the exam should measure technical competencies of incoming students in basic computer skill and information literacy areas. The committee is to consider revision of the exams to ensure they are aligned with the skills students need to be successful in their freshman-level

general education courses. Faculty and advisor input should be collected from a survey to be sent in April. Revisions to the administration of the exam should be proposed to require that it be taken early in the matriculation of new students and by transfer or returning students who have not demonstrated these competencies. Finally as chair of both the USU CIL committee and the statewide computer competencies group Don Cooley should work to ensure it is aligned with other institutions in the state. Nancy Mesner seconded the referral and it was unanimously approved. Members of the CIL Committee are: John Johnson, Eric Worthen, James Dorward, Todd Moon, Ed Glatfelter, Flora Shrode, Wendy Holliday, Donald Cooley, Gary Straquadine, Fred Baker, and John Mortensen. Stephanie Hamblin and 1-2 student representatives from ASUSU (preferably Academic Senate President Jeremy Jennings or his replacement) will be asked to join the committee for this review. If someone is not available to meet over the summer, Don Cooley will appoint someone else to represent the college on this matter. Dick will notify Provost Coward and President Albrecht that the General Education Subcommittee was not prepared to vote for or against the resolution at this time.

- b. **Integrating Information Literacy into Breadth Courses.** Wendy Holliday motioned that the language be changed to say:

Students will develop their information literacy skills **by exploring** the nature, organization, and methods of access and evaluation of both electronic and traditional resources in the subject area.

The motion was seconded Cathy Hartman and was unanimously approved.

- c. **BYU Idaho Associates Degree Articulation.** Last month Dick Mueller and John Mortensen met with administrators from BYU Idaho and learned that they have significantly changed their requirements for an Associates degree. We will continue to post associates degrees, but students must satisfy any general education deficiencies. John stated that the language in the upcoming General Catalog will be changed to say:

The General Education portion of the University Studies requirements may be satisfied by an Associate of Arts or Associate of Science degree from one of the following approved transfer institutions. A registrar's certification, stating that the student has completed the General Education requirements of one of these transfer institutions, will also be acceptable. However, Utah State University will require students to satisfy the Breadth American Institutions requirements, if an equivalent course has not been completed. Also, students must satisfy any deficiencies in General Education requirements, including Communications Literacy; Quantitative Literacy; and Breadth courses in the Creative Arts, Humanities, Life Sciences, Physical Sciences, and Social Sciences categories. USU advisors reserve the right to review the student's associate degree to determine which additional courses may be required for meeting these deficiencies.

- d. **USU Citizen Scholar Objectives Course Criteria and a Place for Interdisciplinary Courses in General Education.** Due to a shortage of time, this item will be discussed at our April meeting.

## V. Next Meeting – April 21, 2009