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Utah State University

GENERAL EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

October 20, 2009 - 8:30 a.m.

Champ Hall Conference Room #136

Present: Norm Jones, Chair; Larry Smith, Provost Office; Kathy Chuboda, Business; Carolyn Cárdenas, Creative Arts; Tyler Tolson, Student Rep; Dan Coster, Quantitative Literacy/Intensive; Charlie Huenamann, HASS; Nancy Mesner, Natural Resources; Roland Squire for John Mortensen, Registrar's Office; Brock Dethier, HASS, English; Shelley Lindauer, Education; Wendy Holliday, Libraries; Christie Fox, Honors; Craig Peterson, American Institutions; Vince Lafferty, Regional Campuses; Dick Mueller, Science; Brian McCuskey, Humanities; Kim Doyle, Secretary.

Absent: Janet Anderson, Agriculture; Donald Cooley, Computer and Information Literacy/Intensive; Rhonda Miller, Communications Literacy Intensive, ASTE; Ryan Dupont, Life and Physical Sciences; Stephanie Hamblin, University Advising; Mary Leavitt, HASS Advising Center; Wynn Walker, Engineering.

I. Minutes of September 15, 2009 were approved unanimously

II. Course Approval

- a. HONR 3030 (DSS) – Pending
- b. SPCH 4200 (DSS) – Pending
- c. COMD 3100 (DSC) – Ryan Dupont - Pending
- d. APEC 5015 (QI) – Dan Coster - Approved
 - QI Approved/CI Pending

III. Other Business

a. Expiration date for Gen Ed Courses:

- Norm Jones asked for policy direction on the articulation of antique general education credits, citing several examples of courses from the 1970's and 80's being accepted for lack of a policy on general education courses. After a discussion of the issue the Committee voted unanimously to impose a 15 year shelf life on courses articulated for general education. Those wishing to use credits older than that may appeal to the Chair of the General Education Committee.
- Roland Squire drafted the following policy language to be sent to advisers:
"The Gen Ed Committee has approved setting a limit of 15 years on Gen Ed Courses that are automatically accepted. Courses older than 15 years will require a petition with proper justification to the Gen Ed Committee to be considered for approval. The committee felt that the 7 year limit was too short for Gen Ed Courses but they also felt that courses older than the 15 years needed some review before considering them for acceptance."

b. Educated Person's Conference

Norm reminded the committee of the statewide General Education conference, Oct, 30,2009 at Utah Valley University. The topic is *Metarubrics and the USHE:Knowing What We Really Teach*. He urged their attendance. Larry Smith confirmed that the Provost would pay for those attending.

c. Visit of the Reaccreditation team

- Gen Ed is being represented by selected members of the committee, who will meet with the accreditor. In the last reaccreditation USU received a “recommendation” because the Team believed that there was a shortage of seats in General Education. This has been addressed by the “Gen Ed Swat Team,” which includes Larry Smith, John Mortensen, and the Chair of General Education. The Registrar provides frequent enrollment updates and seats are added as needed. Memoranda of Understanding have been developed with Biology and History to ensure predictable staffing in heavy use areas.
- In relation to this, Norm requested that College representatives inform their deans of his concern that there will be a shortage of Gen Ed courses next year because of staff reductions. He would like to be informed of cuts in gen ed offerings as soon as possible. A discussion of RCDE course availability ensued. Vince Lafferty and Roland Squire explained that all sections of courses, no matter how they are taught, will be displayed commonly, as soon as it can be worked out how to ensure that the students know the delivery method for each. The fees for RCDE courses can be waived for Logan Campus students, but it is currently done by hand entry.
- Craig Peterson noted that the Reaccreditation team is very interested in Gen Ed assessment. Craig suggested that Norm talk about Lumina project with the visitor. He also suggested we inform her of our examination of CIL test and explain what this committee does. He reported that the AAA office will be choosing a value added exam to administer to USU students in the near future. Norm suggested that AAA should consult the Gen Ed Committee about the exam.

d. Appointment of new Chair for Social Sciences Subcommittee

Roberta Herzberg was nominated. She has accepted.

e. Computer Information Literacy Survey has had a good return. Don Cooley will report on the findings at the Nov. 17 meeting.

IV. Next Meeting – November 17, 2009