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GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

October 18, 2011 8:30 A.M.
Champ Hall Conference Room

Present: Christie Fox, Honors; Larry Smith, Provost's Office; Brian McCuskey, English; Dick Mueller, Science; Kathy Chudoba, Business; Norm Jones, Chair; Erik Mikkelsen, ASUSU President; Tom Bunch, Agriculture; John Mortensen, Registrar's Office; Mary Leavitt, HASS Advising; Charlie Huenemann, HASS; Brock Dethier, HASS; Vince Lafferty, RCDE; Susan Neel, USU Eastern; Michele Hillard, Secretary; Craig Petersen, American Institutions; Dan Coster, Quantitative Intensive

Absent: Ryan Dupont, Life & Physical Sciences; Rhonda Miller, Communications Literacy/Intensive; Nancy Mesner, Natural Resources; Roberta Herzberg, Social Sciences; Carolyn Cárdenas, Creative Arts; Wendy Holliday, Library; Bruce Saperston, Arts; Wynn Walker, Engineering; Stephanie Hamblin, University Advising; Teryl Roper, Agriculture

Call to Order – Norm Jones

Approval of Minutes – Erik Mikkelsen moved to approve the minutes of the September 20, 2011 meeting. Brian McCuskey seconded; motion carried.

Course Approvals

ARTH 2730 (BHU) - APPROVED: Brian McCuskey moved to approve, Dick Mueller seconded; motion carried.

ARTH 4725 (CI) - PENDING

ARTH 4710 (CI) - PENDING

ARTH 4520 (CI) - PENDING

ARTH 3840 (CI) - PENDING

AV 2720 (CI) - PENDING

HIST 3530 (DHA) - APPROVED: Brian McCuskey moved to approve, Dick Mueller seconded; motion carried.

HIST 4650 (DHA) - APPROVED: Brian McCuskey moved to approve, Dick Mueller seconded; motion carried.

Course Removals

N/A

Syllabi Approvals

N/A

Business

Concurrent Enrollment - Vince Lafferty has been working on all concurrent enrollment courses that need assessing. All are fine except USU 1360. This course is being taught in Tooele by Danny Bower. Danny is an adjunct, teaching this concurrent enrollment. There is not currently a faculty member who teaches in the physical science arena and there doesn't appear to be anyone remotely close that can help with this. Dick Mueller asked Vince if he would check to see if Butch Brodie

could line someone up. Blair Larsen in geology was suggested and Tonya Triplett was another person who may be available to help.

President's Task Force on Curriculum - Norm presented a copy of the propositions presented to the President's Task Force on Curriculum and invited feedback, since they suggest that pathways through General Education to degrees be clarified and that students be expected to complete general education as foundational preparation for entry into degrees; that an AA/AS be an option for Logan students; and that there be incentives for entering students who have preparation in math, composition and foreign languages that ensures timely completion.

One incentive suggested was to grow the Honors Program – offer a payoff for incoming students. The idea is that more students would come to college better prepared.

The question was asked about USU-Eastern and their open enrollment. There is a Legislative issue of enrollment – USU-Eastern enrollment is open for all. Norm responded by pointing out that this does not limit enrollment, but it does ask degrees to be very clear about expectations.

Erik Mikkelsen can see some students getting burned out on the General Education courses if they are all required in the first 2 years. Norm suggested that departments look at combining GenEd and major prerequisite courses, so that students don't get overwhelmed.

Are there things the university can do to help students research and pick a major? Degree search/finder should be able to help students decide what they want to do.

Do we extend the Associates Degree to all USU campuses? Currently there is a national move for Associate Degrees and with this degree we need to meet the state's requirements.

It was noted that a few students don't have the GPA to get into the majors. The AA/AS option would give them a chance of receiving a degree. This led to the question of how grade requirements are set for majors. There needs to be some validity on how the GPA is decided upon and we need to include data to back this up.

Meeting Adjourned

Next Meeting – November 15, 2011 @ 8:30 a.m. in Champ Hall