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Utah State University, "General Education Subcommittee Minutes, November 15, 2016" (2016).

Educational Policies Committee. Paper 987.

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GENERAL EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES

November 15, 2016

8:30 am – 9:30 am

Old Main - Champ Hall

Present: Lee Rickords, Agriculture and Applied Sciences (Chair)
Michele Hillard, Secretary
Larry Smith, Provost's Office
Kacy Lundstrom, Library
Dean Adams, Engineering
Dick Mueller, Science
Kris Miller, Honors
Claudia Radel, Natural Resources
Barbara Williams, Registrar's Office
Brock Dethier, Writing Program
Harrison Kleiner, Connections
Bob Mueller, Regional Campus
Laura Gelfand, Arts
David Brown, Quantitative Intensive
Susan Haddock for Stephanie Hamblin, Exploratory Advising
Konrad Lee, Business
Dan McInerney, American Institutions
Shelley Lindauer, Education and Human Services
Brian McCuskey, Humanities

Absent: Janet Anderson, Office of the Provost
Ryan Dupont, Life and Physical Sciences
Jessica Hansen, Academic and Instructional Services
John Mortensen, Student Services
Cindy Dewey, Creative Arts
Mykel Beorchia, University Advising
Melanie Nelson, USU Eastern
Damon Cann, Social Sciences
Ashley Waddoups, USUSA President
Matt Sanders, Humanities and Social Sciences

Visitors: Joyce Kinkead, Professor, English
Dillon Feuz for Brian Warnick, Agriculture and Applied Sciences

Call to Order – Lee Rickords

Approval of Minutes – October 18, 2016

Motion to approve the minutes from the October 18 meeting made by Brian McCuskey. Seconded by Laura Gelfand. Minutes approved.

Depth Requirement for Teacher Education Majors..... Larry Smith

Teacher Education students as they think about course work for the spring. New licensure requirements by the USBOE where all TE students must take both a 3 credit course in technology, as well as 3 credits of English language learner. TE students will now have total credits of over 120. Retroactive and applies to students in program now. USBOE doesn't want them over 120 credits. Gen Ed committee consider on a temporary basis only a suspension of the depth requirement for TE students for 3 years. Faculty in TE will work on blending the depth requirements in the curriculum. Depth requirement is at USU only. No other institutions require this. Caine College of the Arts and the College of Engineering are supportive of this request. TE students are held to a higher standard due to their majors. This is for all education, elementary, secondary and special. How will the three-year timeframe be monitored? Have dean or faculty come and report periodically on progress. Should not set a precedence in disallowing depth courses for other majors. Reaffirm to students that the depth courses are necessary in their education.

Motion to approve the suspension of Depth Humanities for Teacher Education students made by Claudia Radel. Seconded by Laura Gelfand.

Amendment motion to require annual report from CTE made by Konrad Lee. Seconded by Laura Gelfand.

Course Approvals/Removals/Syllabi Approvals

ADVS 5630 (CI) **APPROVED**Brock Dethier
Motion to approve CI designation made by Dick Mueller. Seconded by Konrad Lee. Designation approved.

APEC 1600 (BAI) **APPROVED** Dan McNerney
BAI courses should not become niche courses specifically tailored toward majors. The APEC department improved the course to broaden the BAI between the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences and the College of Natural Resources. Makes it broader than what is currently offered to students. Look at new courses requesting BAI designation and making absolutely meet the requirement/rubric. Review courses every three years.
Each designation subcommittee look at their requirements and make necessary changes/requirements. R470 standards have been updated by the state.
Motion to approve BAI designation made by Shelley Lindauer. Seconded by Brock Dethier. Designation approved. One vote in opposition.

BIOL 5630 (CI) **APPROVED**Brock Dethier
Motion to approve CI designation made by Dick Mueller. Seconded by Konrad Lee. Designation approved.

CMST 5800 (CI) **APPROVED** (change in Curriculog to 2 credits)Brock Dethier
Motion to approve CI designation made by Dick Mueller. Seconded by Konrad Lee. Designation approved.

Business

Data collection for writing/communication committee..... Joyce Kinkead
Next semester Dr. Kinkead's class will do an analysis of courses with CI designation. The Institutional Review Board approved the proposal and would give these students an authentic research experience while providing the Gen Ed committee with data that will help with the oral/written communication issue. Results of this work would come back to Gen Ed at the end of the spring semester. The class will be looking a syllabus to make sure the communication requirements meet expectations. Nee to make sure that the Provost is in agreement with this and

that all deans and department heads are informed and make clear that this is not about faculty evaluation but about syllabus evaluation. This effort provides students with a research experience and the Gen Ed committee would receive the data they are looking for.

Motion to accept this research assistance made by Dick Mueller. Seconded by Kris Miller. Assistance/information approved.

Discussion/Review of information gathered regarding lack of adequate writing/communication skills in students.

- ACT Report on College Readiness
- SAT Data
- Utah School Assessment
- Writing Skills – National Data
- English 1010 Objectives
- Assessment Rubric
- Survey of Graduate Engineering
- Graduate Training: Results of a Survey of Employers

Not sure that the data provided really helped with the issue at hand. Information was interesting but doesn't really help with the body of evidence to prove there is a problem. Collecting data across campus will be more helpful than the national information/data that has been provided. Student writing data is available through the Library and it was agreed upon that the Gen Ed committee cannot solve this problem on their own. Need to communicate writing resources, that are available on campus, to the faculty so they are aware of resources that can be utilized. Could provide training on writing and using rubrics for faculty so they can effectively evaluate others. It was suggested that writing fellows could help cover the needs. However, funds would be required to hire more fellows. If funds were available colleges or departments could hire someone to help/teach specific writing skills/techniques. Writing centers are integral for regional campuses.

Should a meeting be held in December?

No December 20, 2016 meeting. Next meeting is scheduled for January 17, 2016. Any critical designation requests can be reviewed and approved via Curriculog and email.

Adjourn: 9:37 am