**WIU Council on General Education**

**Meeting Minutes**

**September 24, 2015**

**Fall 2015 CGE Members**

Marjorie Allison Dept. of English & Journalism (Humanities/Fine Arts)

Panakkattu Babu Dept. of Physics (Math/Natural Science)

Rumen Dimitrov Dept. of Mathematics (Math/Natural Science)

Krista Bowers Sharpe Library (At-Large)

Kathleen ODonnell-Brown English (Communication Skills)

Erik Brooks Dept. of African-American Studies (Multicultural)

Benjamin Meyers Student Government Association ( ? ) (Communication Skills)

Kyle Mayborn College of Arts & Sciences (Ex-officio, Dean's Council Representative)

Nancy Parsons Office of the Provost (Ex-officio, Provost's Representative)

Darcy Plymire Dept. of Kinesiology (Human Well-Being)

Jongnam Choi Dept. of Geography (Social Science)

Joanne Sellen Dept. of Educational & Interdisciplinary Studies (At-Large)

Keva Steadman Dept. of Economics & Decision Sciences (Social Science)

Jeannie Woods Dept. of Theatre & Dance (Humanities/Fine Arts)

Michelle Yager Advising Center (Ex-officio, COAA Representative)

**Elected Members Present:** Marjorie Allison, Panakkattu Babu, Rumen Dimitrov, Joanne Sellen, Kathleen ODonnell-Brown, Darcy Plymire, Keva Steadman

***Elected Members Excused:*** Eric, Michelle, Jeannie, Jongnam

**Ex-Officio Members Present: Nancy Parsons, Kyle Mayborn**

***Ex-Officio Members Excused/Absent:***

**Guests Present: Holly Stovall, Amy Shouse**

**CGE Chair Marjorie Allison called meeting to order 3:34 at in Horrabin 60 on the Macomb Campus**

**MINUTES, INTRODUCTIONS, AND REPORTS**

Minutes approved.

Welcome to Guests:

**Additions to Agenda:**

No additions to agenda

**Announcements:**

Marjorie wants to ensure that everyone got the chart of GE that she and her subcommittee put together last year.

**REPORTS:**

1. Office of the President—nothing
2. CAS—nothing
3. University Advising—nothing
4. Faculty Senate/Articulation Requests—nothing

**OLD BUSINESS:**

* Need a recommendation what to do with syllabi etc. Does everyone need to see everything? Or just the people in the area in question? Agreed that the latter is the way to go

**NEW BUSINESS:**

* Decided to look over the WS syllabi while we listened to our guests speaking
* Holly gives an overview of the genesis of WS 270—Hispanic Women
* The idea of “Hispanic” women is meant to locate the course in language and therefore in Humanities
* Amy talks to the importance of speaking to our growing number of students of Hispanic background
* **The listed prerequisite for WS 270 will be eliminated—WS does not have prerequisites, as a rule**
* Discussion of sending the course to CCPI as well as to CGE
* The course syllabus will need to reflect plus/minus grading, as per Nancy, before it goes before faculty senate
* The final syllabus will need to reflect CCPI requests
* **Marjorie is concerned that the course objectives, as they are written for 270 may seem to push into the course objectives of 280. At issue is the objective of engaging questions of gender and sexuality among Hispanic women**
* Holly is concerned that themes of sex and sexuality should be in the course regardless of who teaches it
* Amy indicates that the cap for the course would be 35, initially, but could go as high as 50.
* **Marjorie is concerned that there should be language to indicate that students will not just write but will be given the chance to revise their writing. That language should be in the request for course and not just in the syllabus**
* Motion to approve WS 270 with the changes suggested (and bolded above) made by Darcy, seconded by Rumen
* Motion to approve WS 270 was passed 7-0
* Discussion of assessment of 270
* Marjorie is interested that the assessment is couched in terms of “learning outcomes” instead of in terms of “goals.” Wants to discuss the meaning of that choice with Nancy. Should there be “stock outcomes” from the GE rubric, or are the learning outcomes offered good enough?
* Nancy suggests that the outcomes in the assessment plan ought to go into the course request as well
* Kyle notes that the WS assessment learning outcomes are more specific than have been presented before. Nancy is saying that the specifics actually make more sense. Kyle is concerned how the Faculty Senate will react if the wording of learning outcomes is changes
* So, Nancy says that the assessment piece works
* Keva wants a clarification of the rubric—what is the difference between “exceeds” and “meets” expectations. Are there better ways of phrasing the two categories? Nancy says that the bullet points ought to be different under the headings, but Amy counters that this plan has been approved before, so…
* Suggestion that the language describing “exceeds” and “meets” to be reworded in order to clarify the differences between the two categories
* Motion (PK) is made and seconded (Rumen) to table the assessment plans until the language has been changed to be specific for each class and to clarify the different categories
* Begin discussion of WS 280
* Amy says WS 280 is designed to address sex, gender, and sexuality amongst women, but with the understanding that discussions of such issues may move away from strictly “women’s issues” in the contemporary context
* Marjorie suggests that a letter of support from Merrill Cole would be appropriate before the course goes before the Faculty Senate
* Marjorie wants to know what is the theoretical framework for interpreting the works that will be used in the class.
* Holly expresses concern that at the 200 level, it might be too much to pigeon hole writers such as Rich and Wittig as “theorists” or as “poets,” etc.
* Marjorie is concerned that the interpretive lens of the class is muddled
* Suggestion made that the focus be taken off the “works” and redirected at “sexuality and gender identity”
* Need to add language regarding opportunities to revise writing
* Motion to accept course (Darcy) second (Joanne)
* Motion passed 7-0

**GOOD OF THE ORDER**

**Motion:** PK moved to adjourn and Rumen seconded. Motion passed 7-0

The meeting was adjourned at 4:51 p.m.

CGE will next convene at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 13, 2015

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Darcy C. Plymire (CGE Secretary)