

Minutes
Council on General Education
April 22, 2010
3:30 p.m. Algonquin Room, University Union

Attendees: Steve Bennett, David Casagrande, Jongnam Choi, Sean Cordes, Judi Dallinger, John Hemingway, Jim Schmidt, Cynthia Struthers.

Guests: Sarah Haynes, Religious Studies; Betsy Perabo, Religious Studies

I. Approval of minutes from the last meeting.

Minutes were approved.

II. Announcements

A. Physics 150 will be reinstated and already has an assessment plan

B. Faculty Senate has not set their meeting dates. Bennett will submit the Fall 2010 room request form (and once again request the Algonquin Room) when he receives the dates.

C. New CGE members beginning in the Fall 2010 semester are (presumably):

Patrick McGinty (Social Sciences, Sociology and Anthropology)

Andrea Hyde (At Large, Educational and Interdisciplinary Studies)

Esteban Araya (Math/Natural Sciences, Physics)

Ginny Boynton (Humanities, History Chair)

We will double check with the senate to clarify who is coming and going.

We will invite the new members to our final meeting of the semester (May 6th) at which time we will elect new officers for next year.

III. Update on Assessment Plans for Courses Approved Since August 2008

A. BAT 300

Judi Dallinger has been corresponding with Gordon Rands. We expect to hear the goals they are willing to assess after April 30th. They know that they must assess Goal 5.

B. REL 110 and REL 111

Discussing at today's meeting

C. HIST 144

Judi Dallinger has been in contact with Ginny Boynton and she will follow up with the instructor.

D. IS 325

Judi Dallinger has contacted Tej Kaul. They will be assessing goals 2 and 5. We are waiting on their plans.

E. ARTH 284

No news.

F. HIST 340

Discussing at today's meeting

G. WS 265

Feedback from our discussion of their plan during the April 8, 2010 meeting was passed on to Lori Baker-Sperry. They are working on the revisions.

IV. Discussion of REL 110 and REL 111 General Education Assessment Plans

Some discussion centered on the grading of the essays and the idea of using a student's single best work for evaluation purposes and this was clarified. Also discussed was the idea of how gen ed goals related to the course material and how this fit the evaluation process. This was exemplified by questions about how outcomes for goal one would be parallel across sections of the REL 111 course. The questions should tie back to the learning statement in whatever form they take, and questions could be in multiple types, formats. REL 111 approved unanimously. REL 110 the discussion centered on adjusting goal five to exclude instances referring to writing quality in the rubric to more closely match the learning outcome statement. REL 110 approved contingent upon this minor change.

V. Discussion of HIST 340 General Education Assessment Plan

Goal 5: there was a question about the number of essays. There was also discussion of the writing aspects of the rubrics between 3 and 5 and the course presents the difference between outcomes well. The council will ask for clarification of the number of essays for goal. Language for the difference between pre-colonial and pre-Columbian needs clarification, broad language is acceptable here.

VI. Discussion of the Results from the General Education Writing Survey

Some small sections for certain courses are not providing opportunity for revision, and this is a concern. Discussion: we are generally meeting recommendations, creating using a baseline, rotating survey, but revision opportunities need to be encouraged more. Opportunities for revision for FYE and other courses pooled rose from 39% to 48%. For classes over fifty the amount of pages written increased. The recommendation is that the Council contact the Deans to discuss this at the chairs level at least and a reminder that opportunity for revision is required of all Gen Ed courses with less than 50 students. Email to the CAS and COFAC and COEHES and B&T Dean to inform them of this issue.

VII. Other

Next Meeting: 3:30 p.m., Thursday, May 6, 2010, Algonquin Room