Minutes
General Education and Instructional Effectiveness Committee
Online MSTeams Meeting
2:00PM, Monday, March 15, 2021

Present:

Elected members: George Bailey (chair), Karen Vail-Smith, Crystal Chambers, Randal Martoccia.

Ex-officio members: John Collins, Elizabeth Mizell, Ying Zhou.


Agenda:

1. The meeting was called to order at 2:06.

2. The Minutes of the February 15, 2021 meeting were approved without change.

3. Announcements:

   GD. Credit was granted for AMU-ARTH200, Art Appreciation, American Military University.

   Question, Karen Rupp: The catalog states the following: General Education Elective – 3 semester hours (Select any 3 s.h. course that receives either humanities, fine arts, mathematics, natural sciences, or social science general education credit.) Students who may have already completed HLTH 1000 and/or KINE 1000 and who also take RCTX 2200 - should any of those classes be allowed to apply toward the General Education Elective requirement?

   Answer: no, those are competencies, like writing and mathematics, not part of the liberal arts requirements. So they cannot be used as a general education elective.

   Notification from Foreign Languages and Literatures, Debra Rush: We propose the following changes to SPAN 3440, SPAN 3441, and SPAN 3550: Remove SPAN 3002 as a prerequisite for SPAN 3350. As part of the proposed reduction in hours for the degree, SPAN 3002 has a been removed as a core requirement for the concentration in Hispanic Studies. Since it is no longer a required course, we propose removing it as a prerequisite for this course. Add SPAN 3003 as a prerequisite. SPAN 3003 was developed as a course for native or heritage speakers of Spanish. It replaces 3001 and should also be listed, along with 3001, as an option for the prerequisite. SPAN 3550 has HU credit because, though it’s a 3000-level class, it’s still an introduction. Since
it's in Spanish, students need the prerequisite of SPAN 1001-2004. However, many students place out of 1-4 and take 3550 in freshman spring or sophomore year.

Biology is Banking BIOL 1030, Plants and Human Affairs, which has Natural Science credit.

The interim chancellor has created a two-course pass-fail option for spring 2021. He has extended the date for withdrawing from a course in the spring 2021 15 week term and Block Two courses to April 27 (March 5th for Block One courses) and created additional flexibility for grade replacement. He has allowed faculty to add a Covid-19 impact statement to their evaluation materials for the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 annual evaluations, progress towards tenure evaluations, and evaluations for promotion and tenure. He is allowing faculty the option of using or not using the spring 2020, summer 2020, fall 2020 and spring 2021 SSOI results in evaluations.

The College of Nursing teaches NURS 4906 Community Health Nursing. The course was approved for WI credit and to go from 3 to 4 credits. This will not impact it’s continuing to receive Domestic Diversity credit.

Committee observations: The last introduction of a Pass/Fail grading option is causing problems with advising. For examples, students have already dropped courses who might have continued and taken the Pass/Fail grading option had this option been available earlier. The interim chancellor’s decision to allow faculty to decide if their SSOI results would be used in evaluations were made without taking into account the IPAR data that shows that the SSOI scores faculty received during the pandemic do not differ from those they received prior to the pandemic. This data was the basis for the committee’s recommendation that the SSOI results be used in faculty evaluations. A question was asked about changes to the grade replacement policy. Faculty Chair Martinez explained that doing grade replacement for courses taken this term will not count against the 4 course limit for grade replacement.


5. The committee recommended Global Diversity credit for PHIL 2112, Philosophy of Free Speech. Michael Veber presenting.

6. The committee recommended Humanities credit for PHIL 2112, Philosophy of Free Speech. Michael Veber presenting.

7. The committee recommended Domestic Diversity credit for KINE 4030 Physical Activity and Aging, Dave Kemble presenting.
8. The committee recommended Natrual Sciences General Education credit (SC) for GEOG 2250, Earth Surface Systems. Burrell Montz presenting.


10. SSOI survey: Moved by Cryatal Chambers, second by Karen Vail-smith: That IPAR analyze the Spring 2019 and Fall 2019 SSOS results (numerical and student comments) and provide the committee with a report on whether the results provide evidence of bias against faculty members in under-represented groups. The motion passed.

   The committee discussed creating a sub-committee to prepare a policy recommendation that ECU adopt a policy allowing action to be taken against students who clearly exhibit bias against under-represented faculty members in their comments on the SSOI. This will be discussed further at the committee’s next meeting.

11. Syllabi review update. The committee was shown the final rubric that committee members will use when they review the syllabi of courses receiving Humanities General Education credit. The rubric will be in Qualtrix. Each committee member will review five syllabi. So far, all but 32 of the syllabi to be reviewed have been received. George will remind units to provide syllabi. When all syllabi are received, they will be distributed to committee members. The goal is to have this finished in April.

12. Other Business: There was no further business.

13. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 3:20.