**GE Committee MINUTES**

**Sept 6, 2013**, 2-3:30 pm, room CO-423

Present: Alex Sterling (chair), Francesca Paltera (sitting in for Scott Cabral), Natalie Hannum, Nancy Ybarra, Anthony Hailey, A’kilah Moore, and Cindy McGrath.

Sept 6:

1. Agenda & minutes--*approved*
2. Quick membership update: who we have (so far) this semester. *We still need reps from creative arts/humanities, behavioral science, biology, and Distance Ed. Our small numbers led us to talk about what counts as a quorum. GE has no by-laws to tell us what counts, so we decided with 4/7 possible faculty reps present, we would go ahead.*
3. GE Course outlines
	* Brief review of COORs process conversation from last spring & how this affects us today. *(See May 16 2013 minutes for info.)*
	* Spanish COORs: Span 50 and Span 51. *Not approved for GE, but we’d like to discuss it again, ideally with Spanish faculty present.*
		+ *For GE SLOs 2 (interdisciplinary) and 5(diversity), the committee thought both COORs passed easily. They also pass for GE SLO 1, the speaking requirement.*
		+ *The committee thought Span 51 passed for GE SLO 1 the writing part, but were unsure about Span 50 because it is a beginning level Spanish course: is the writing sophisticated enough to count as GE?*
		+ *The committee thought there wasn’t enough information about how ethics (GE SLO 4) is taught and assessed in either course.*
		+ *The committee was divided on whether either course passed for GE SLO 3 (critical thinking). Learning a new language is cognitively demanding, and the students have to think hard, but we were unsure whether this kind of thinking fits what we mean by “critical thinking” (making inferences, defending a position, etc.) in GE.*
	* Music 10 online supplement: *postponed till next meeting.*
4. Revisit GE’s charge: What is the mission?
	* Review the charge from ‘06
	* To what degree transfer, to what degree the local AA/AS?
	* What should we make our biggest priorities? Assessment, professional development, COORs approvals, community building/keeping the spirit of GE alive….
5. GE/TLC faculty event on Sept 23—what should we do? A few ideas: get input on how to organize/reboot GE professional development; float the idea of eliminating GE SLO 2; brainstorm how to stay fresh with new courses and other innovations; talk about transfer vs. local degree GE students…

**GE Committee Meetings Fall 2013:**

* Fri Sept 6 in room CO 423 (in the Office of Instruction) from 2-3:30 pm
* Fri Sep 20 in room L105 (in the library building) from 2-3:30 pm
* Fri Oct 4 in room L105 from 2-3:30 pm
* Fri Oct 18 in room L105 from 2-3:30 pm
* Fri Nov 1 in room L105 from 2-3:30 pm
* Fri Nov 15 in room L105 from 2-3:30 pm
* Fri Dec 6 in room L105 from 2-3:30 pm

**GE Faculty Event:**

Sept 23, 2013 (3:00-5:00 p.m. in L109)