

GENERAL EDUCATION MINUTES

May 13, 2011, 2:00-3:30pm, Office of Instruction Conference Rm 420

Members present: Scott Cabral (chair), Janice Townsend, Alex Sterling, Liana Padilla-Wilson, Sara Toruno-Conley. Minutes were taken by Scott Cabral.

1. Public Comment and announcement.

Alex said that the Study Slam would be next Thursday, 3:00–9:00pm. They are looking for staff to work with students for a couple of hours.

2. Approve agenda.

The agenda was approved. We would do item 4 (COOR review of ENGL-128) and item 5 (discuss wrapping up the 11-year assessment plan in Fa'11 and Sp12), and then Janice would leave.

3. Approve minutes.

Janice had questions about the minutes from the previous meeting of April 8. She wanted to clarify the note “These COORs (PSYCH-10, PSYCH-11, SOCIO-15, SOCIO-16) will need to be updated in 2012 (meaning Fa12).” The COORs were last rewritten in Fa07 (October), but they were among the COORs that were rescheduled to do their rewrites early (before their five years were up) so that all the college’s COORs could be rewritten 20% per year. She said that we should get rid of that note. Whenever we have ever done anything with corrections, we have not passed it. We always passed with recommendations, which means that we have concerns, but the COOR is acceptable. “Corrections” means that the author has to make corrections and then the COOR has to come back to the GE committee. Lianna remembered that Gil said that we should pass the COORs through and get back to them in Fa12. Scott said that where this stands now is that we will ask Estelle and Alex to make the corrections, and return the COORs to the GE committee in Fa’11, then the COORs will get a new date stamp and will not need to be rewritten for another five years.

Another concern that Janice had was that these COORs had gotten notes in content review that the COORs did not have the speaking component (GE SLO 1). The bullets of corrections for the COORs that were on the April 8 minutes did not mention the speaking component, such as oral presentations. Sara recalled that we forgot to talk about the speaking component. Online Supplements require the speaking component, so we want to require that of non-online GE COORs in order to be consistent. Lianna thought that if Estelle and Alex had the summer and fall, then they would not mind adding the speaking component. Sara asked if we should add the speaking component to the bullet list of corrections. Estella and Alex were asking when the COORs would be put on the Curriculum Committee because the minutes said that the COORs were passed. Lianna remembered that we all said that they were scheduled originally scheduled to rewrite the COORs in 2012, so they would rewrite them in 2012. Scott said that it slipped his mind that these were COORs whose rewrite date had been pushed up due to the need to get all the college’s COOR rewrites spread out evenly over five years.

Janice said that it would help if we remove the note about the COORs being rewritten in 2012. Lianna said that the note should say that the COORs will be rewritten just sometime before 2012. Janice also said that we should add a bullet saying something about an oral presentation. Lianna commented that we were all a little confused. Janice said that she wanted to attend the April 8 GE meeting, but she was a state meeting on TMCs in Rocklin, and she tried to get us some direction via email before the April 8 meeting, but there was a lot of confusion. Scott said that we should say that at the meeting we thought that the PSYCH and SOCIO COORs would be rewritten in Fa12, but now we would like the COORs rewritten in Fa'11. Lianna thought that Fa'11 should be plenty of time. Lianna also related that Estelle has been working until 1:00am every morning on TMCs and Estelle sounded like she would not mind doing the rewriting. Janice said that Estelle and Alex did really good PSYCH-17 and SOCIO-17 COORs, so they have good models to go off of. The COORs are not GE, but they're really well-structured.

4. GE Course Review: ENGL 128 Online supplement

Additions were made to include communicating effectively as a speaker according to instructions that had been given by the GE committee. One concern about VoiceThread that Janice raised is that the student could be reading, it is not like talking to someone. You would not be able to assess whether they were reading or not. Some instructors have students present information to an audience and videotape it. Orally communicating is not just verbal, it is also body language. We should ask that the instructor be sure that students post video presentations on Bb as described in part b iii. Before we pass it, we should ask Joellen if part b iii is required. If it is, then we don't mind if the other parts allow the option of audio only. We will ask for clarification. It sounds like she is saying that everyone will do part b iii, but we want to be sure.

Scott said that he would email Joellen about that question. We are prepared to pass the supplement if part b iii is required.

5. Discuss wrapping up the 11-year assessment plan in Fa'11 and Sp12.

We need to discuss what we will do in Fa'11 and Sp12 as we transition from the 11-year assessment plan to the Cindy 5-year assessment plan that will presumably start in Fa12. We still have not had GE Seminars about GE SLO 2, interdisciplinary connections, or GE SLO 4, ethical implications.

We need to have faculty assess these SLOs because we are under the gun with accreditation. Scott showed a draft two-semester seminar schedule. Alex asked if we should have GE Seminars at all because they are so unpopular in the survey. The new Monday calendar refers to "Professional Development," not "GE Professional Development." Janice worried about trying to do two GE SLOs in two semesters because pedagogy might suffer. Academic Senate might change the five GE SLOs. We might also just do one GE SLO in the two semesters. It is mandated that GE needs to be assessed over five years, we will eventually have a five-year model. Janice thought that ethical inquiry is a big deal and we shouldn't try to squeeze it into one semester. Lianna liked the idea of spending more time on one SLO, rather than rushing through two. It would be strange to go from six semesters on an SLO to one semester. We could tell accreditation in the report that we are 80% done and we will do the fifth SLO in the first year of the five-year plan. Alex thought that we should do interdisciplinary in Fa'11, Sp12 and ethical

implications in the first year of the five-year plan. However, the five-year plan may not have GE Seminars, it may just be faculty doing their assessment work, the GE committee writing a summary report about it, and very little professional development. Janice thought that we should cover ethical implications in Fa'11, Sp12. Perhaps the seminars could be: unearth the topic (what are ethical implications), write their assessment plan, more information (i.e., professional development), report what they found out (share out). We would do four seminars rather than six during the academic year. Alex floated that we do these four sessions during flex, not during the semester. About 350 courses need to be assessed in the Fa'11, Sp12 year. The two seminars each semester would be on two of the three professional development Mondays each semester. It would be too hard to plan during the summer. We should find articles to inform ourselves about ethical implications. It would be nice to have a wiki site with articles to refer faculty to. We on the committee have always not been expert enough in the SLOs. We could recruit some PHIL-2 instructors, such as Danny Ramirez to present. Scott said that he would talk to Danny. Alex will teach PHIL-2 in Fa'll.

Seminar 1 could be Alex talking about his class, faculty could help him brainstorm this new issue that he is doing for the first time. Danny could talk clearly about competing values. Alex teaching it for the first time is a brilliant way to bring it to the faculty.

In Fa12, we should not continue ethical implications, we should go on to interdisciplinary connections. Academic Senate determines what the GE program is. Alex should go to all the Academic Senate meetings. The discussions at the senate should be reported at the GE meetings as a standing item.

6. Analyzing and Responding to the Fa10 Assessment Reports

We skipped this agenda item.

7. Update from final GE Seminar of May 2.

Originally, faculty were supposed to get professional development in Fa'11 in response to needs identified in their multicultural perspectives assessment reports. We will not do multicultural perspectives in Fa'11, so we don't need to worry about it. We also do not need to analyze and respond to those reports.

Sara will be leaving the GE committee. She will stay on the Academic Senate.