

GE Meeting Minutes

April 25, 2022

I. Call to order

Lorie Hughes called to order the GE Committee at 4:00 p.m. April 25, 2022. The following were present: Lindsay Chaney, Adrian Peterson, Anthony Beal, Heather Holland, Mike Salitrynski, Michael Olsen, Kristi Stevens. Ryan Thalman, Nick Marsing, Andrew Nogasky, Alex Snyder and Landon Peterson via Zoom.

II. Approval of minutes

Kristi motions; Anthony seconds. Unanimous vote to approve minutes from 4/11/22.

III. Syllabi

A. CHEM 1010, 1015, 1110, 1115

1. Adrian motions; Kristi seconds. Unanimous vote to approve CHEM 1010, 1015, 1110 and 1115 pending minor changes.

IV. Senate

A. Chair Hughes asked the committee members if there is anything they would like senate to know about having a voting senate member on the committee.

B. The committee wants senate to carefully consider their appointment. Committee members want to make certain there is equal representation so that large divisions do not have the majority of votes. They also want a representative that will review material and participate in GE and not just come to the meetings to vote.

V. GE area supervisors

A. The deans have signed off on this document. They would like the GE committee to give feedback and approval.

B. The decision for GE area supervisors needs to involve all campus.

C. Discussion on GE representation. Should representation come from divisions or programs. For some areas, it is easy to establish the programs but others will involve more than one department. What division representation brings is balance. If the institution decides on representation from programs how will they define distinction.

D. Discussion on E1 and E2. If there were representatives for E1 and E2 would that facilitate conversation about what the concerns are in these areas.

- E.** The GE committee could operate more like senate in that they represent the institution and not divisions.
- F.** What is broken that this document fixes? Sometimes you can break something trying to fix it. The area supervisors proposal on paper is what the GE committee already does.
- G.** Discussion on involvement in assessments. All instructors that teach a specific area do not sit down together to do assessment. For example in humanities, Mike has never sat down with everyone that teaches a humanities course to do an assessment or have a discussion about the courses taught.
- H.** Assessments are conducted by those that agree to participate in assessments. All those teaching a particular course do not participate in the assessment only those that sign up to help.
- J.** Communications has been involved in two assessments with the humanities division for their courses taught for humanities credit.
- K.** There is a problem that the assessment material never makes it back to the GE committee.
- L.** Assessment should be happening at the GE committee level because faculty serving on the committee are removed and the committee creates a type of barrier between departments where courses can be viewed objectively.
- M.** The problem with the recent OLE syllabi was that there was nothing on paper that gave the humanities dean authority to make decisions. The committee is working on the process, which will help with this concern.
- N.** By approving the area supervisors proposal the deans seem comfortable with having the responsibility over faculty in other divisions.
- O.** With the communications courses taught for humanities GE credit, the communications department adjusted the courses to meet the humanities role. That is something faculty will need to accept if they want to teach courses out of their department. When you teach a knowledge area, you must be able to meet the outcomes.
- P.** The curriculum committee had concerns that some courses meet resistance while others are rubber-stamped. There needs to be equality in decisions. If the course meets the requirements, it should be approved and the committee should not look at political power plays.
- Q.** Curriculum committee provides rubrics, which are very helpful.

R. Curriculum committee members realize they need to be careful that they are assessing syllabi and not instructors.

S. The practice of faculty governance is important but there also needs to be a standard for the level of teaching courses. However, some decisions are simply made at the administrative level.

T. It is not the job of the committee to set the rules for the deans. Deans decide qualifications of an instructor.

U. Adjuncts are required to have a master's degree so the committee could make a similar recommendation.

V. The area supervisor proposal came from the deans. They asked GE to look at it and make suggestions and vote. The committee can continue this discussion in the fall as far as recommendations.

W. Mike motions; Adrian seconds. Unanimous vote to approve the area supervisor proposal.

VI. Summer meeting

A. The committee decides to hold the summer meeting on June 6th from 11:00-1:00. Lunch will be served. A Zoom link will be available.

VII. Other business

A. Chair Hughes will create a file in Teams where committee members can add ideas for the committee or items they would like to address this fall.

VIII. Adjournment

Chair Hughes adjourned the meeting at 5:20 p.m. Minutes submitted by: Amy Noblett