

University General Education Council

October 8th 2014 3:30-5:00 p.m.

Adams Center Class Room

Present: E. Gumm, G. Straughn, R. Ashlock, L. Baker, C. Flanagan, M. Garver, D. Perkins, C. Niccum, J. Nichols, K. Pamplin, M. Smallwood, J. Xu, N. Santana

Absent: B. Hammack, P. Roggendorff, P. Wertheim

Ex-officios: T. Milholland, N. Coates

Guests: L. Lemley, C. Riley

Meeting Began at 3:33

- I. Call to Order
- II. Prayer by Matt Garver
- III. Introduction of new, current, and ex-officio members.
- IV. Approval of the minutes from 4.23.14

Motion to approve by Nichols; seconded Garver; all in favor; none opposed; motion passes

- V. Discussion with the review committee

The objective is to review what we have in place and look at areas of improvement. Are we effective at what we are currently doing? Are the objectives appropriate intellectually and spiritually? The Provost requested the council to review the transferability of courses, how our courses transfer to other colleges, the financial cost, and the cost to the university. A lot of universities are moving to a 120 hour degree. We may want to consider an hour change to be more in line with other institutions.

G Straughn suggested using October to look at the options, November to make sense of it and write a proposal and in December give the proposal to the President. The Review committee would receive the document and make recommendations and the UGEC would take responsibility to work with the recommendations and discuss any issues.

J. Nichols expressed concern about AISD and the early college program and requested conversation about what others are feeling. E. Gumm and G. Straughn have not been directly involved in the conversations regarding this matter. E. Gumm did explain that we are already accepting students from similar programs. The students are in a college atmosphere when taking the courses, and do not differ significantly from dual credit students. There was discussion on the entrance exams and placement tests and if the students are prepared.

The council discussed the overall assessment of the core, and how successful it is. The average university requirement hours are 42 – 46 hours. K. Pamplin pointed out that history is not a requirement. If we were to add history, it would simply need to be another category. Removing the general education requirement would free up three hours. The evaluation of outcomes was discussed and if the council was required to review them for each course. D. Perkins suggested a financial literacy course be added. J. Nichols suggested reducing English to six hours by allowing foreign language to count for literature.

G. Straughn asked the council to think about the following questions; what are the strengths of the current structure? What are the weaknesses of the current structure? Are the outcomes appropriate for the structure and courses?

Meeting adjourned 4:50