

University General Education Council
February 11, 2015, 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Adams Center Classroom

Present: E. Gumm, G. Straughn, R. Ashlock, L. Baker, M. Garver, B. Hammack, D. Perkins, C. Niccum, K. Pamplin, N. Santana

Absent: C. Flanagan, J. Nichols, P. Roggendorff, M. Smallwood, P. Wertheim, J. Xu

Ex-officios: T. Milholland

Guests: S. Lewis, R. Beck, D. Pemberton, J. Cardot, D. Hendricks

The Meeting began at 3:32.

I. Call to Order (E. Gumm) and Prayer (N. Santana)

II. Approval of the minutes from 1.28.15

Motion to approve by K. Pamplin; seconded by D. Perkins; all in favor; none opposed; motion passes

III. New PEAC Courses: 203 - Ballet; 204 - Modern Dance; 353 - Advanced Dance Technique Practicum

M. Garver presented this proposal. Jackie Beth Shilcutt worked with Shelia Jones on developing these courses. D. Perkins asked if these classes would be added to the PEAC menu for general education requirements. M. Garver said they would. S. Lewis noted that the courses are contingent on UUAC approval. T. Milholland noted that the courses have been approved by the Kinesiology faculty, as was J.B. Shilcutt's curriculum vitae.

Motion to approve the three courses as a block by C. Niccum; seconded by R. Ashlock; all in favor; none opposed; motion passes.

IV. PSYC Capstone

R. Beck noted that this was continued from the 1.28.15 meeting. The PSYC 493 syllabus was revised to include a 2,000 word paper per the council's request.

Motion to approve by R. Ashlock; seconded by C. Niccum; all in favor; none opposed; motion passes.

V. CORE 110 Thematic Pilot

D. Pemberton attended the meeting to discuss the Thematic Pilot of CORE 110 for Education majors. She acknowledged that there were some concerns about the pilot changing the curriculum of CORE 110, but she said they will not do that. They want to create community between potential teachers, who come from three colleges and 13 majors. She said that one of the outcomes of Cornerstone is to reflect on the missional aspects of vocation, which can be enhanced by having a class comprised of students with a commonality of potential vocations. The pilot will not be mandated. There was

discussion about learning in community groups, and whether or not creating community should be a goal for Cornerstone classes. B. Hammack asked how would the success of the pilot be evaluated. D. Pemberton noted that she's not sure how to measure the outcome. C. Niccum said that he would like to have an outcome evaluation before approving the pilot. G. Straughn noted that the council would know in 6 years if the pilot was successful, meaning if the department retained more students. D. Pemberton said retention is not the goal of the pilot, but it is a possible outcome. E. Gumm clarified that the proposal is only for the Fall 2015 semester. The approval is for one-time only, and the council wants to reflect on it and possibly discuss other themed sections.

Motion to accept (one-time only) the proposal to pilot two sections of CORE 110 for Fall 2015 designated for majors in teacher education, who may or may not choose to participate by M. Garver; seconded by B. Hammack; 7 in favor; 1 abstention; motion passes.

VI. General Education Review - Findings and Recommendations

G. Straughn noted that this discussion is to provide context about transfer courses for general education classes, beginning with transferring communication and math courses.

Discussion with COMS

G. Straughn asked J. Cardot to discuss whether or not ACU should be more flexible when accepting Texas Common Courses (TCC) to count for the general education COMS credit. Most of the TCCs will transfer to ACU, but only some will meet the general education requirement. COMS 211 is primarily a public speaking class; the commonly transferred TCCs are not necessarily public speaking; they include introduction to communication, interpersonal communication, business and professional communication, etc. The concern is that if ACU opens the COMS general education requirement to beyond 211, then students who are nervous about public speaking will flock to the other classes (i.e. small group communication) and may not be as prepared for employment. J. Cardot noted that the council should reflect on what an ACU graduate is capable of doing or expected to do if he/she has certain courses on his/her transcript.

Discussion with MATH

D. Hendricks began by stating that MATH 120 or above will meet the general education requirement. The only commonly transferred class that does not meet the general education requirement is MATH 109, College Algebra, which D. Hendricks said is high school math and is not rigorous enough for ACU standards. The council agreed with him and there was a general consensus that ACU should not relax standards by accepting MATH 109 for general education.

The meeting adjourned at 4:51.