

General Education Council Meeting Minutes
April 24, 2017
3:30pm, JCK 880

Attendees: Brown (Chair), Allsup, Booth, Butler (in place of White), Erhart, Farris, Gonzales, Hamilton, Hanks, Hindson, Natalie McRae (in place of Bondoc), Pizer, Russian, Supancic, Vacaflores Rivero, Wilson, Cathy Lamm (Administrative Assistant)

Absent: Hawkins, Jones, Passty (ex), White

Guests: Heather Galloway, Micky Autrey, Sonya Gutierrez, Diann McCabe

Brown announced the reelections of Hanks, Hamilton, Hindson, and Wilson to the General Education Council, and the election of Dr. Jaymeen Shah, who will be replacing White.

Introductions of alternates and guests were made and Brown thanked everyone for coming.

The minutes of February 27, 2017, were presented for approval. Pizer moved to approve the minutes of February 27, 2017, seconded by Hamilton. Motion passed unanimously.

Brown advised that on April 14, 2017, he sent a request, on behalf of the General Education Council, to Rex Peebles to change Texas State's component area option courses to retain the 090 Component Area Option category and add 091 for COMM 1310, and add the 094 Component Area Option category for ENG 2310, ENG 2320, ENG 2330, ENG 2340, ENG 2359, and ENG 2360, so students get the appropriate credit.

Autrey provided an update on access to the General Education Council courses in the CIM system. Autrey advised there were three avenues to the CIM system: 1) new courses being proposed; 2) existing courses; and 3) existing General Education courses being proposed as non-General Education courses. Autrey advised that the questions included on the General Education form are the same questions that the Council created. Brown reiterated that the first General Education test will be the honors course entitled "Ted Talks." Autrey advised that Component Area Options 090, 091, 094 are categories the Coordinating Board designated, and that they are leaving 090 as the core code for Degree Works, so any course that is transcribed with 090, 091, and 094 will satisfy the 090 core curriculum requirement in Degree Works. It was noted that the "Ted Talks" Honors course will be 2309 even though it will be a communications course, and can be approved out of sequence on this occasion because it is an Honors topics course. It was also noted that the General Education Council will basically function as a curriculum committee when the system goes live and that the council will review courses on CIM calendar in each November (this year being November 27, 2017). Supancic recommended the Council decide if it will be using the comments section, in terms of committee review, before voting in November.

Brown advised this is the last meeting of the spring semester, but the Council will meet again on June 26, 2017, to examine assessment of core curriculum. Brown reported that when

submitting to the Coordinating Board, two topics would be submitted; for instance, critical thinking and quantitative skills. This year will be critical thinking and personal responsibility. Next year will be communication skills and social responsibility. And the third year will be empirical skills and teamwork. Brown emphasized that the assessment committee should be looking for evidence of improvement. Brown advised that the Council will also consider approval of the new Honors course at the June 26, 2017 meeting.

A review of recommended changes to AA/PPS 02.03.01 was presented by Hanks. Hanks advised that the current policy language did not contain the proper reference to students with special needs/disabilities. Hanks moved to change the language in the current syllabi templates and GEC Minimum Expectations document to reflect the proper ODS disability language; seconded by Booth. Motion passed unanimously. Pizer inquired if the language should say “documented” disability vs. “disability.” Brown confirmed that the General Education Council will endorse the changes and Hanks can recommend to the Sr. Reviewer. It was noted that on the Minimal Expectations document, it should reflect “adopted on April 24, 2017”.

Brown requested Autrey contact him when ready to go live with General Education in the CIM system so he can inform Galloway.

As recognition of service, Brown will send White a thank you note and arrange for an apple strudel for White’s last meeting.

A motion to adjourn was made by Hamilton; second by Russian. There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 4:45pm.

May 8, 2017 – Additional Information

Drs. Wilson, Wuest and Brown met to discuss and to revise assessment strategies for review of both the core objectives and the foundational component areas. The intent will be to comply with plan filed by Texas State with the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, and to prepare for SACSCOC standards. More information about this will be given to the assessment subcommittee for their work.