

General Education Council Meeting Minutes
November 24, 2014
3:30pm, JCK 880

Attendees: Brown (Chair), Hanks, Erhart, Farris, Feakes, Hamilton, Harney, Hindson, Moczygembba, Rivero, Supancic, White

Absent: Carrasco, Carter, Davidson, Downing, Friedman, O'Neal, Passty, Russian, Wilson

Guests: Heather Galloway, Diann McCabe, Beth Wuest

Brown thanked everyone for coming and introduced the guests. Brown thanked Carrasco and Farris for their service on the Council through the fall.

The minutes of November 10, 2014, were presented for approval. Erhart moved that the minutes of November 10, 2014, be approved, seconded by Hamilton. Motion passed unanimously.

Hamilton presented a revised version of HHP's proposed course PFW 1301, gave a brief background of how the proposal evolved, and reviewed the course description and component table in detail. Council members inquired if there were other universities in Texas or the nation that have a social sciences course in HHP or a comparable department, and Hamilton responded that Oregon State and Hope College in Michigan were two, but they do not meet the social sciences description. Hamilton noted that the content of the proposal is vastly different than initially drafted, but the intent is still the same and is more in line with the Texas definition of the social and behavioral component. Harney inquired about a time table for implementation, and Brown advised the course would need Gen Ed approval first, then department curriculum committee approval. Hamilton advised that anyone could take the course beyond the College of Education and suggested it be taught as a hybrid course. Harney recommended removing the word sociology so it is not tied directly to that. Wuest advised she will have to reframe some of the assessments (course objectives, etc.), but stated that could be done. Brown noted the course had to obtain approval from the departmental, college and university curriculum committees and hence, if approved, could be implemented fall 2016/spring 2017. As a subcommittee recommendation, the recommendation to approve PFW came to a vote. Supancic abstained, and the other 10 members voted in support of the recommendation. Brown will present a recommendation to the Provost and advise the council of his action.

While Galloway and McCabe presented a list of recommended Honors College course substitutions, Supancic recommended the creation of new HON header records and topics courses to conform to the components employed by SACS and the Coordinating Board. This recommendation conforms to the current course procedures utilized by the University Curriculum Committee. Brown advised the documents would need to be submitted to the Coordinating Board no later than

April if the new topics courses were to be implemented as early as fall 2015. Galloway supported the recommended model for Honors College header record and topics courses. On the recommendation of Supancic, Brown, Supancic and Galloway agreed to work with Wuest, Autrey and May to create a model and course numbering system that could be submitted to the General Education Council and the University Curriculum Committee in January 2015. Supancic recommended that one topics header record course and one example in each of the component areas be submitted for this review and approval. Once approved, the Honors College can then submit additional topics courses that would only need internal approval through the Gen Ed Council. Harney moved that six or more topics header courses be developed in Honors to parallel the Gen Ed courses, seconded by White. Motion passed unanimously. Brown noted that as soon as the documents are available for review, subcommittees of two persons each can be created before our next meeting on January 26, 2015.

A motion to adjourn was made by White, seconded by Erhart. Meeting adjourned at 5:05pm.