

General Education Council Meeting Minutes
November 10, 2014
3:30pm, JCK 880

Present: Ron Brown (AVPAS), Craig Hanks (Chair), Michael Supancic, Peter Dedek, Diego Vacaflores Rivero, Garry White, Sharon O'Neal, Michelle Hamilton, Kristen Farris, Jackie Moczygema, Lucy Harney, Nancy Wilson, Ted Hindson, Debra Feakes, Brianda Carrasco, Cathy Lamm (Administrative Assistant)

Absent: Beth Erhart (Chair), BJ Friedman, Ian Davidson, Chris Russian, Greg Passty, Dustin Downing, Temple Carter

Dr. Brown circulated a revised draft of a core syllabi for review and comment, and introductions of committee members were made.

The minutes of September 8, 2014, October 13, 2014, and October 27, 2014, were presented for approval. It was noted that Ted Hindson's name should be corrected on all three and that Debra Feakes was absent on October 27, 2014, so remove her as being present. Wilson moved that the minutes of September 8, 2014, October 13, 2014, and October 27, 2014, be approved with the noted corrections, seconded by White. Motion passed unanimously.

Proposed revisions to PPS 1.12 were presented for review. Brown noted that one concern was that, with regard to SACS, faculty members are responsible for all curricular approval on both the General Education Council and the Curriculum Committee. Discussion was held whether students should have a vote with regard to curriculum issues due to a conflict of interest. Brown noted there had never been an instance in which the student representatives' votes had determined the outcome. There was lengthy discussion regarding changes to item 6 as to whether to appoint a committee member to represent the Honors College. Supancic suggested the committee look at the honors courses currently being submitted for approval versus all honors courses at one time. Committee members discussed the merits of the Honors College having a voting member, a non-voting delegate, or special representation when Honors College courses were under review. Following the discussion the Council decided to table revisions to item 6 until the need arises. The committee reviewed changes to item 10 of the policy regarding conducting elections and, after discussion, decided to use language consistent with the mission and revisit at a future meeting. Feakes recommended that in item 2, five lines from the bottom, the word "liberating" should be changed to "liberal." The PPS will be returned to the Council at a later date.

D. Feakes initiated a discussion of credit for Chem 1310 and 1341. Feakes presented a hand-out of 2 pages from the undergraduate catalog with the general core listed and informed the Council that Chem 1310 and 1341 are both being taken by students to meet core. Feakes noted that Life and Physical Sciences instructs students to choose two courses, but the catalog description states that students will not receive credit for both. She informed the Registrar about the concern, and L. Jimenez indicated that it may be

possible to program the system where one can be core and other can be an elective. She suggested including a parenthetical statement under each course description that students cannot get core credit for both 1310 and 1341. Wilson suggested clarifying the names or descriptions of the courses. Feakes indicated that she will report back to the Council.

The Council discussed how Honors College classes will be evaluated for inclusion in GECC for Texas State. Brown noted that if any honors issues come up, Heather or a representative will be present at the meeting. Brown will distribute a list of the course titles to the Council and suggested that if there were more than a single subcommittee evaluating the courses in a component area that the subcommittees get together so there is consistency in evaluation. Hamilton suggested meeting with a subgroup and bringing to a vote at some point.

Feakes raised concern about how the audits completed by the Council at its meeting of October 27 would be handled by the departments offering the component classes. Brown will prepare general summaries of both the fall and spring audits, and will send this information to the departments so that the audits of the SLO plan and of the implementation of the assessment will be incorporated into the next year's SLO plan.

A motion to adjourn was made by White, seconded by Harney. Meeting adjourned at 4:30pm.