

General Education Council
Minutes for 2/14/00

Members Present:

M. Lord-Education
R. Northcutt-Science
T. Mijares-Applied Arts
J. Ross-Business
T. Mandeville-Education
E. Nielsen-Fine Arts & Comm
B. Brown-Liberal Arts
M. Brennan-Liberal Arts
V. Sriramen-Science
K. Moffeit-Business
L. Thomas-Health Professions
T. Sanchez-Student Rep
V. Luizzi-Chair Rep
C. Schroeder-Student Rep
S. Beebe-Chair Rep
Guest: Gary Rice

Members Absent:

G. Rydl-Applied Arts
F. Blevens-Fine Arts & Comm (Gary Rice rep)
C. Hawkins-Health Professions
B. Melzer-Health Professions

The meeting convened at 3:35 p.m.

Motion:

R. Brown asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the January 24th meeting. E. Nielsen so moves. M. Lord seconds the motion. The January 24th minutes were approved as prepared.

The members of the ad hoc Committee on Council Membership met on Monday, January 31, 2000 and formulated the following changes in the Council By-laws to PPS 1.12 for Council consideration:

Reference Section 9 change "one alternate" to "two alternates"

Reference Section 15 Move this section and renumber as "Section 16"

Reference Section 16 Change this section to read:

"Regular attendance is expected of representatives or their designated alternates. In the event a representative or alternate is unable to attend, a proxy may be designated by the representative in consultation with the appropriate dean or Chair of the Council of Chairs. The Dean of the College of General Studies will be notified. The proxy will be furnished appropriate materials for the meeting and will be a voting member for that meeting."

Motion:

R. Northcutt moved the adoption of the changes to PPS 1.12 from one alternate to two alternates. M. Brennan seconded the motion.

The Council unanimously approved the alternate change to PPS 1.12.

Discussion:

V. Luizzi thinks it's necessary to have a consultation with notification to the college dean if unable to attend a Council meeting. A proxy can be used especially for those Council members unable to attend for a whole semester. He believes this will encourage attendance and responsibility for attending Council meetings.

Motion:

R. Northcutt moved the adoption of the changes to PPS 1.12 to change Section 15 and create a new Section 15 to read:

“Regular attendance is expected of representatives or their designated alternates. In the event a representative or alternate is unable to attend, a proxy may be designated by the representative in consultation with the appropriate dean or Chair of the Council of Chairs. The Dean of the College of General Studies will be notified. The proxy will be furnished appropriate materials for the meeting and will be a voting member for that meeting.”

Discussion:

R. Brown said the College of General Studies should be changed to University College. The sentence should read:
The Dean of University College will be notified.

The Council unanimously approved the Section change to PPS 1.12.

R. Brown told the Council that several deans have problems holding elections to appoint Council representatives. Dr. Juarez would like to replace the election process with appointments by the college dean.

Discussion:

Several Council members mentioned that it is important to have faculty and chair responses to the general curriculum and student input. M. Brennan does not like the choice being taken away from the faculty. V. Luizzi believes appointment by the dean is inconsistent with the philosophy of the Council. R. Brown will oppose the appointment of Council members at the Deans Council meeting.

On February 28th Drs. Glassman and Estaville will attend the Council meeting to discuss the addition of geography to the natural science core curriculum. R.

Brown suggested that the meeting proceed as follows:

✓ Drs. Glassman and Estaville make their presentation.

- ✓ The Council asks any questions they may have.
- ✓ Welcome Dr. Estaville, Dr. Glassman and other visitors to stay for the rest of the meeting.
- ✓ Council will hold a vote unless the Council decides the issue needs to be studied and consequently a subcommittee will be appointed.

The Council agrees to this procedure.

Assessment:

R. Brown proposed two forms of assessment, Institutional Portfolio Assessment and Senior Interview Assessment. Core curriculum is presently assessed from the collected syllabi of the faculty who teach old General Studies core curriculum. The institution has investigated other forms of assessment starting with the Kansas team.

R. Brown and Paul Raffeld initiated the portfolio assessment in the fall semester with Sue Beebe scoring the admission essays. The institutional portfolio assessment requests course information from the instructor about the course. B. Brown would like definitions of Ethics and the other terms as defined for SACS to assist the faculty reporting for the course. V. Luizzi agreed to help define ethics. T. Mandeville would like to include a written description of ethics and the University core values. V. Luizzi thinks many professors will not participate and send in requested WI assignments without student consent. M. Brennan asked if the essays were randomly selected? She also mentioned that the forms were sent out at a bad time. R. Brown assured the Council of getting the forms out at the beginning of the semester.

Another form of assessment is through standardized test. One drawback to standardized testing is that time elapsed between course completion and general education assessment often results in flattening of the sample results.

Motion:

S. Beebe moved to endorse the institutional portfolio assessment proposal. T. Mandeville seconded the motion.

Discussion:

J. Ross wants to know how the portfolio fits into assessment? Drs. Smallwood and Raffeld believe the portfolio assessment will be a good qualitative assessment tool. One purpose of this assessment is to change the courses that are not providing the students the skills they should be receiving as defined by SACS.

The Council unanimously adopted the Assessment proposal.

Motion:

R. Brown entertained a motion to adjourn. Meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

