Minutes of the General Education Subcommittee  
October 12, 2016  
SF 466  
2:00 pm – 3:50 pm

Present: Lawrence Bliss, Luz Calvo, Eric Fricke, Julie Glass, Zach Hallab, Caron Inouye, Rita Liberti, Sarah Nielsen, Maureen Scharberg, Mitchell Watnik, Chongqi Wu.  
Absent: Aline Soules.  
Guests: .

The Chair (Glass) called the meeting to order at 2:02 and welcomed Dr. Wu to the subcommittee.

1. Approval of Agenda. (M Scharberg /S Liberti/P).
2. Approval of 10/5/16 minutes. (M Scharberg/S Inouye/P). Calvo was left off of the attendance list for subcommittee members. This was corrected.
3. Reports  
   a. Report of the Chair. No report. It was pointed out that Glass is unable to serve on the semester steering committee (at least for the Fall), but Watnik and Inouye are on that committee. The steering committee passed the deadlines for GE proposals and it was distributed to associate deans.  
   b. Report of General Education Director. Inouye said that Philosophy is withholding applications for GE until clusters are proposed. The Director and undergraduate dean are talking with him and others. Subcommittee members expressed concerns about that issue. It was pointed out that the purpose for the deadlines is that courses need to be available for individual advising plans. Cluster courses are not necessary for this purpose and the subcommittee could approve those courses and clusters in 2017-8. There was a question about approving a quarter course for online GE next quarter. The sense was that the subcommittee was very busy with conversion and the stated reason was not particularly compelling.  
4. Business (courses available in Curriculog):  
   a. Math 319. (M Nielsen/S Bliss/P unanimous) to approve B6. Glass pointed out the revisions to the previous proposal.
   b. English courses.  
      i. ENGL 101 (M Scharberg/S Fricke/P unanimous) to approve A2. Nielsen pointed out that this is the second part of what is now remedial English to grant students A2 credit (the first semester gets college credit, but not GE). Those who score what would now be 800-level EPT will take ENGL 100 and then ENGL 101,
the latter, as noted earlier, receiving GE by this proposal. This model started at SFSU and has been adopted at others, such as SJSU. Soules had asked about course outcomes by email and Nielsen addressed the issues.

ii. **ENGL 105** (M Calvo/S Bliss/ see substitute below) to C2. Nielsen noted that this course is designed particularly for international students to expose them more to written proficiency. It is likely to be part of a cluster, as the quarter course ENGL 1020. Since the books include non-fiction, there was a question about the humanities content, for example, could one read a book on how to repair a bicycle? Nielsen said that the books are chosen related to the individual’s reading ability and are necessarily humanities oriented, as the instructor provides guidance. Typically, the books have to do with culture. Regarding the reading ability, sometimes the books are simplified, while retaining some of the unique authors’ contents. There was a request to provide some examples of books and it was suggested that the Department specify “arts and culture” (or something like that). Watnik asked that a prerequisite to specify college English level. Substitute (M Bliss/S Glass/P) to postpone so English to provide more details on the application.

iii. **ENGL 106** (M Liberti/S Scharberg/see substitute below) to give C3. This course is intended for international students, as well. There were questions about creative activities and whether this is somewhat skill-based (language acquisition). There was also a suggestion for a pre- or co-requisite for a sufficient level of English. Substitute: (M Bliss/S Watnik/P) to postpone so English to provide more details on the application.

iv. **ENGL 220** (M Calvo/S Wu/see substitute below) to grant C2. Nielsen indicated that English is likely to apply for overlay approval as well. There was some question about whether this is more social science (D). Nielsen indicated that there will be fictional works, too. There was considerable discussion about the specificity needed to gain approval. Scharberg noted that some departments just answered with “lecture”, but most of those were turned back. Substitute: (M Bliss/S Calvo/P) to postpone to better complete the answers to 2a. Bliss suggested that chairs be present to allow for on-the-fly changes. Subcommittee members felt it would be better to just ask for details.

v. **ENGL 342** (M Watnik/S Liberti/P unanimously) for C4. Nielsen said that this is likely to seek overlay (sustainability) approval, as well. It was noted that the prerequisites were not explicitly posted.
vi. **ENGL 411 (M Calvo/S Scherberg/P 8-1) for C4.** There was a question about the course learning outcome, which were not available on the applications. It was noted that the course and 412 were both considered equivalent to a single quarter course.

vii. **ENGL 412 (M Calvo/S Scherberg/P 7-2) for C4.** Similar concerns were expressed about ENGL 411. 411 is required for the major. 412 is an elective.

5. From the floor. The subcommittee decided to handle Chemistry and Communication courses next time.

6. Adjournment. Glass declared the meeting adjourned due to time at 4:00.

Respectfully submitted,
Mitchell Watnik, subcommittee secretary