Minutes of the General Education Subcommittee
February 28, 2018
SF 329
2:00 pm – 3:50 pm

Present: Eileen Barrett, Julie Glass, Zach Hallab, Caron Inouye Derek Kimball, Rita Liberti, Sarah Nielsen, Filippo Rebessi, Aline Soules, Mitchell Watnik, Chongqi Wu, Meiling Wu.

Absent: Larry Bliss.
Guests: Glen Perry.

1. Approval of the Agenda.  Glass called the meeting to order at 2:01.  (M Barrett/S Soules/P)
2. Approval of the minutes.  (M Kimball/S Rebessi/P with abstentions).

3. Reports.
   a. Chair.  Glass reported the ExCom returned the B6 document to CIC.  (M Soules/S Barrett/P) to recommend that CIC send it back as an action item.  Glass noted that the subcommittee might consider extending the “general nature” to other upper division GE areas.
   b. GE Director.  Initially, the report was deferred to semester conversion below.  Inouye made a google drive available to subcommittee members with GE for freshmen.  There are cluster proposals on the drive.  However, Inouye argued that the real “glue” will be the GS, math, and English courses.  This is largely due to the different MMP classifications for the students, with many necessitating co-requisite courses.  The subcommittee deferred to Inouye’s approvals of the clusters.
   c. Semester Conversion.  Perry expressed concern that GE approvals aren’t as far along as originally intended.  However, he noted that many courses had to be sent back and consultations occurred.  He added that scheduling is starting to happen and noted that we are “not in a good place” with over 100 courses in the hopper.  He noted that Watnik wrote a memo asking for funding to allow for more meeting times for the Subcommittee.  The Semester Conversion managers/directors forwarded the memo to the sponsors, who agreed to allocate funding as requested ($2,667).  Glass proposed meeting 4 hours on March 14, 2018 (during finals week).  She also proposed meeting March 7 from 2-4.  April 4th would be the other “extra meeting.”  Perry noted in a response to a question, that the money cannot be banked to use as assigned time next year.

4. New Business.  (Approvals are unanimous unless stated otherwise.)
   a. Review of new B4 approval form.  The revised form was displayed for members.  Inouye noted a few changes.  There was discussion about the co-requisite cap (resulting in 25).  There were editorial suggestions.  (M Watnik/S Soules/P) to approve the amended document and send to CIC, with caveat that reconsideration should happen in the Fall.
   b. Updates on consultations.  Kimball noted consultations on Ethnic Studies and Environmental Studies.  There was an issue with the ENVT course cross-listed with PHYS 307.  Watnik will investigate.
c. Courses for review (unanimous unless noted otherwise)
   i. POSC 323/355 (M Barrett/S Liberti/P) for D4.
   ii. WOST 102, 301, 302, 303, 401, 402 (M Barrett/S Nielsen/P) for Diversity Overlay. Glass noted that she felt 301 and 302 sounded more like Social Justice.
   iii. WOST 403 (M Soules/S Barrett/P 8-2-1) to refer back with Barrett as consultant. Members felt that it was internationally oriented and more appropriate for social justice.
   iv. GS 101A and 101B (M Nielsen/S Inouye/P 10-1) for E. Soules asked about the “passport exercise”. That has been problematic, according to her. Members suggested removing references to that exercise. Inouye said that they are working on improving those issues.
   v. GS 201, 202, 305, 401 (M Nielsen/S Hallab/P 10-0-1) for E. There was discussion about who would take the class and there was a dissonance between the number of units and the number of units.
   vi. HOS 298 (M Hallab/S Liberti/P 5-0-6) for D1-3. Hallab clarified that “customer service” means the human element, where the server is related to social, political, and economic entities. He argued that it fits “very well” with lower division social science. He argued that guests can influence and/or resist the provider. Influence might be through feedback. Nielsen pointed to the example of hotels allowing customers to save water through indicating not washing linens. Hallab added other examples. Liberti asked whether the indications of broader patterns (beyond those of individual contacts) are given in the course. Barrett asked about specialization. Hallab argued it is a general course, not just for majors.
   vii. HOS 297 (M Barrett/S Hallab/P 10-0-1) for D1-3. (M Hallab/S M Wu/P 9-1-1) for Social Justice. Soules argued that the course is more for diversity. Hallab said that the department was asked to apply for social justice, instead. He cited the Denny’s in Maryland and also issues of food service denied for race and/or orientation. There are also food-sourcing issues that lend themselves to social justice. Barrett commended the argument. Liberti said that these notes should have been written down on the application, but agreed with Hallab.
   viii. THEA 100 (M Nielsen/S Rebessi/P 10-0-1) for C3. The course was originally approved for C1, but is now approved for C3.
   ix. THEA 101 (M Hallab/S Barrett/P 10-0-1) for C1. THEA 101 (M M Wu/S Barrett/P). The abstention was due to a member not thoroughly looking at the application.
   x. HSC 130 (M Soules/S Watnik/see below). There were comments that Art, Communication, and/or English should have been consulted. Glass pointed out that writing assignments were said to be “not […] graded for writing, style and grammar except to the extent that they must be intelligible.” There were comments about whether the texts cited are at the lower division level. (M Kimball/S Barrett/P 8-2-1) to table and consult with Barrett as consultation.