

Council on General Education Agenda
October 10, 2017
10-11:00 a.m., Stevenson Hall 140

Presiding: Rocio Rivadeneyra

Present: Alan Bates, James Cunningham, Amina Jinadu, Mackenzie Nowotnik, Sally Parry, Terry Plickebaum, Carla Pohl, Rocio Rivadeneyra, Jon Rosenthal, Michael Rubio, Jean Standard and Chad Woolard

Guests: Derek Herrmann Meyers, Assistant Director Academic Services, University Assessment Office

Rivadeneyra called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Action Items:

1. Approval of Minutes

The question was called. Parry made a motion to accept the September 26, 2017 minutes. Pohl seconded. All in favor, none opposed. The minutes were accepted.

2. IDS 302, Seminar on Success (new course)

Council members reviewed the proposal submitted by the College of Applied Science and Technology (CAST). The College is proposing the new course to serve as a career-readiness course for seniors across all of its majors.

Parry believed the course proposal looked alright and mentioned that many other departments across campus have a similar course. Rosenthal asked if the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) has a similar course. Parry responded that while the College did not have a course, many of the departments within CAS have this type of course.

Standard questioned if the course should be offered as an IDS course as it only impacted CAST majors. She suggested that the course should be cross-listed across the CAST majors. Rosenthal had proposed the same question to Jess Ray, University Registrar. After looking at several options which included cross-listing the course, it was determined that the easiest logistical option was to offer as an IDS course. Rosenthal also pointed out that many students and parents had been asking about including this type of course in the curriculum.

The question was called. Rosenthal made a motion to approve the proposal. Woolard seconded.

All in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

The Council will notify CAST of the decision.

3. ENG 130, Survey of American Literature (proposed for Humanities)

The proposal was submitted to the Council by the Department of English. Rivadeneyra asked if the course already existed or if it was new. Parry confirmed the course had existed for quite some time.

Parry thought the course would fit the Humanities category. Under the previous General Education program of University Studies, this course counted as a General Education course. In addition, it already counts as an IAI requirement. Rosenthal added that the British Literature counterpart of the course already counted as a General Education requirement.

Parry mentioned that she had attended the English departmental meeting where she asked them to consider proposing the course for United States Traditions rather than Humanities for strategic enrollment reasons. After much debate, the Department decided to go forward with the proposal as a Humanities course. Standard asked what the reasoning behind their decision. Parry responded that they felt the course was a better fit for the Humanities category.

The question was called. Parry made a motion to approve the proposal. Rosenthal seconded.

All in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

The Council will notify the Department of English of the decision.

4. African-American Studies Minor

The proposal was tabled from the previous meeting as the Council was waiting on letters of support from various departments.

The proposal reduces the number of hours required for the minor from 24 to 18 while streamlining the process. Letters of support were needed from all departments in which courses were either added or dropped as part of the proposal course requirements. At the time of the meeting, the Council had receipt of all required letters approving the change with the exception of the Department of Psychology. Rosenthal suggested the Council could approve the proposal pending receipt of the letter from Psychology. Standard and Parry confirmed that this was typical procedure in both University Curriculum and College Curriculum Committee meetings.

The question was called. Pohl made a motion to approve the proposal pending receipt of the Department of Psychology's letter. Parry seconded.

11 in favor, none opposed, and one abstained. The motion passed.

The Council will notify Dr. Ronald Gifford, Department of History, of the decision.

Information Items:

1. U.S. Diversity Graduation Requirement

Rivadeneira gave Council members an update on the status of the U.S. Diversity Graduation Requirement ad hoc committee. The Committee is exploring the proposal to have a domestic diversity requirement for graduation. This would be in addition to the AMALI requirement. The Committee has representation from all of the college, as well as from several of the IDS minors that would be most impacted by the requirement.

The Committee has met three times and is currently working on learning outcomes. They look to hopefully finish the outcomes at their meeting later today and then begin looking at courses that would most likely fulfill the requirement. Members will take a general initial pass through courses and then will most likely begin reviewing syllabi for those courses that will most likely be considered for the requirement.

Rivadenevra informed the Council that a proposal has been submitted to have a presentation as part of the Culturally Responsive Campus Community (CRCC) conference. This conference will be held on campus on November 6-7 and brings individuals together to discuss issues regarding diversity and culture. The Committee hopes to garner feedback from the public at this conference. Parry asked when the presentation will be held. Rivadenevra responded that the proposal was just submitted and has not been processed as of yet. If accepted, Rivadenevra, Rosenthal and Doris Houston would be the panel moderators.

2. Test Score Update

Rosenthal reminded the Council that legislation has mandated that academic credit be awarded for a score of 3 or higher for Advanced Placement (AP) exams. This mandate was further expanded to include International Baccalaureate (IB) scores. While there has been no legal mandates as of yet regarding College Level Examination Program (CLEP) scores, it has been quite some time since they have been last reviewed. Rosenthal has sent emails to department chairs asking for them to review their respective CLEP information and is currently waiting to hear back from three departments.

Meeting adjourned: 10:17 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Soemer Simmons