

## Council on General Education Minutes

April 19, 2022

10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m., STV 140

**Presiding:** Chris Worland

**Present:** Brian Aitken, Mary Elaine Califf, Linda Clemmons, Gregory Ferrence, Amy Hurd, Taeok Park, Yvette Pigman, Rocio Rivadeneyra, Chris Worland, and Haiyan Xie

**Guests:**

Malinda Aiello, Program Director, Illinois Articulation Initiative

Worland called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

**Action Items:**

**1. Approval of February 8, 2022 Minutes**

Worland asked if there were any corrections to the February 8, 2022 minutes as submitted. There were no corrections. The minutes were accepted as submitted.

**2. Approval of April 5, 2022 Minutes**

Worland asked if there were any corrections to the April 5, 2022 minutes as submitted. There were no corrections. The minutes were accepted as submitted.

**3. NUR 138 Statistical Analysis and Reasoning in Nursing (new course proposed for QR designation)**

The course was proposed by Dr. Kim Astroth, Professor, Mennonite College of Nursing.

Worland thought it was a strong course and felt the rationale, syllabus, and concepts provided were very focused on nursing areas. He could see the merit in the QR designation for the course. Aitken was not opposed to it but questioned the prerequisite of having a C in MAT 113 or higher which would open the door for students who take College Algebra, MAT 119. He noted it was not a problem, it was just worded differently than some of the other courses already having the QR designation.

Rivadeneyra asked if they had the responsibility to run it by the departments who run 138 as well and noted Psychology would be happy to share 138 students. Pigman responded Nursing was just adding the course as an additional option for its students and did not plan on taking General Education seats/students away from other departments already offering the course. Hurd added we could let Math know as a courtesy but as it would not be adding seats to their courses, department approval was not necessary. Califf agreed and added departmental sign off was only required when there would be a shift in enrollment due to the demands/prerequisites of the new course and/or program. Ferrence thought best practice would be to inform them as it may bring items not previously thought about. Aitken noted students were already required to complete MAT 113 anyway and that this would just provide another statistics option.

Pigman noted nursing students have trouble translating the statistical analysis in the offered General Education courses which led to Nursing proposing the course to give students more evidence-based practice. Students have a difficult time scheduling the course and many times end up in POL 138 which is a very different statistics course. Pigman then noted faculty end up having to try and reteach the

material as students do not have a basic understanding of statistics. Rivadeneyra thought the course would appeal to students in other health-related fields.

A motion was made by Califf to approve NUR 138 for the QR designation. Rivadeneyra seconded.

All in favor, none opposed, none abstained.

The motion passed.

#### **Discussion Items:**

#### **4. IDEAS Committee Bylaws Update**

Hurd met with Academic Senate Chair Dr. Martha Horst to learn more about how IDEAS and AMALI committees could be formed. The Council was asked to consider the following options:

**Option 1:** Establish a Council on Undergraduate Graduation Requirements with three groups: general education, AMALI, IDEAS.

**Option 2:** Committee of CGE members where the IDEAS sub-committee is pulled from the greater CGE. The sub-committee would make recommendations to the CGE for final approval. The membership of CGE could be expanded to accommodate IDEAS experts or remain the same.

**Option 3:** A new IDEAS curriculum committee & a new AMALI curriculum committee solicited and approved by the faculty caucus. The curriculum committees would then be CGE, UCC, GCC, IDEAS, AMALI, & CTE.

**Option 4:** Committee of CGE members where the IDEAS sub-committee is pulled from the greater CGE and additional members from outside of CGE are added (like CTE). Only the CGE members could be voting, but the sub-committee provides recommendations to CGE and is not a binding vote as a sub-committee.

Council members discussed pros and cons of each option. Hurd will speak with Horst later in the week and will bring the item before the Council again in the fall for further discussion.

#### **5. AMALI Update**

Hurd met with a group of faculty members who teach AMALI courses to discuss a potential review process. The group would like to meet and review learning objectives first and will do so in the fall

#### **6. General Education Survey Update**

Hurd notified Council members the results from the survey were in and there was a good student response rate. University Assessment Services were working on creating a dashboard of the results and will share information with the Council in the fall.

A motion was made by Ferrence to adjourn. Seconded by Xie.  
Meeting adjourned 10:48 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Soemer Simmons