

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE
COMMITTEE TO OVERSEE GENERAL EDUCATION
Minutes of 13 January 2011

Members present: Roberta Allen, Raja Aravamuthan, Marcia Feters, John Geiser and David Reinhold. **Members absent:** Edwin Martini and Mustafa Mughazy. **Liaisons present:** Margaret Hamilton and Kevin Knutson. **Also present:** Janice Anderson, Faculty Senate Office.

Procedural Items

COGE Chair Marcia Feters called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

Acceptance of the Agenda
Approval of Minutes from 2 December 2010

It was moved and seconded to accept the agenda. Motion carried.
Approval of the 2 December 2010 minutes was moved and seconded. Motion carried.

Chair's Remarks

Feters welcomed Kevin Knutson back to the committee after his lengthy leave. Kerrie Jo Harvey had been serving as Knutson's substitute during his absence.

Action Items

The committee reviewed the two curriculum proposals that were tabled at its 2 December 2010 meeting. At that meeting, members requested syllabi be provided for these two courses, which were available for today's meeting. In each case, members felt the syllabus did not reflect how the course met the baccalaureate-level writing requirement. Both proposals were tabled again with instruction that a representative for each proposal be invited to the 27 January meeting.

College of Arts and Sciences
School of Communication

1. JRN 4100 Specialized Reporting [CAS 755] – change course title to *JRN 4100 Multimedia Reporting* and change course description. Previously approved in Proficiency 2, Baccalaureate-Level writing. *Tabled again. Felt course syllabus did not clearly demonstrate writing requirements for baccalaureate-level course.*

Department of Biological Sciences

2. BIOS 3500 Human Physiology for Majors [CAS 765] – change course description, approval Proficiency 2, Baccalaureate-Level writing *Tabled again. Felt course syllabus unclear as to how the baccalaureate-level writing requirements were to be fulfilled.*

Continuing Business

COGE Re-Approval of General Education Courses in Area IV, Other Cultures and Civilizations, and Area V, Social and Behavioral Sciences

Several departments had not yet submitted the requested materials for re-approval. The committee set Tuesday, 15 February, as the final date for submission of outstanding materials. Departments were to be alerted to the deadline and informed that materials received after the deadline will not be eligible for re-approval as general education courses. There are eleven outstanding courses in Area IV and thirteen in Area V.

Feters requested that each subcommittee be prepared to provide one third of their recommendations at the next meeting and to identify materials that needed to be discussed as a whole. Members were asked to bring laptops to enable access to the subcommittee portfolios on iWebfolio.

- Subcommittee #1 – Ed Martini, Kevin Knutson (replacing Kerrie Jo Harvey) and Roberta Allen
- Subcommittee #2 – John Geiser, Marcia Feters and David Reinhold
- Subcommittee #3 – Raja Aravamuthan, Mustafa Mughazy and Margaret Hamilton

General Education – Reconceptualization and Assessment of General Education and Baccalaureate-Level Writing

The Report of the Senate Ad Hoc Committee to Revise General Education (1993) was given to members. Aravamuthan felt it would be useful to review this historical information prior to undertaking another review of general education. Reinhold commented review of the ten learning outcomes in the academic affairs strategic plan would be a good starting point, although not all of them might be relevant. He reported the Provost's Office plans to send out questionnaires to learn which of the ten outcomes are already being covered by general education courses within the various departments.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Janice Anderson
Faculty Senate Office