

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE
COMMITTEE TO OVERSEE GENERAL EDUCATION
Minutes of 31 March 2011

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

Procedural Items

Acceptance of the Agenda
Approval of Minutes from 17 March 2011

It was moved and seconded to accept the agenda. Motion carried.
It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes from 17 March. Motion carried.

Continuing Action Item

Curriculum proposal from the College of Health and Human Services

- NUR 3550 Perspectives in Women's Health [CHHS 020-10-R1] – new course, requests approval in Area III, The United States: Cultures and Issues

Discussion of NUR 3550 was tabled at the 27 January meeting. Removal of the pre-requisites was recommended by COGE. Nursing complied with that request and submitted a new syllabus (with new curriculum proposal pending) that removed the course pre-requisites.

Aravamuthan moved, seconded by Mughazy, approval of NUR 3550 in general education Area III, The United States: Cultures and Issues. Motion carried.

New Action Items

Four curriculum proposals from the Lee Honors College

1. HNRS 2500 Leadership in the 21st Century [LHC 02-2011] - new course in Area V, Social and Behavioral Sciences
2. HNRS 2302 Jazz and Civil Rights [LHC 03-2011] - new course in Area III, The United States: Cultures and Issues
3. HNRS 2301 Jazz, Blues and the Harlem Renaissance [LHC 04-2011] - new course in Area III, The United States: Cultures and Issues
4. HNRS 2303 Vietnam and Rock [LHC 06-2011] - new course in Area III, The United States: Cultures and Issues

While it was generally agreed that the content of the four courses fit their particular areas, there was concern that the content wasn't broad enough. Conversation moved to the fact that different rules apply for unique courses that are specifically designed as LHC general education courses. It was suggested there are opportunities for honors students to take part in general education courses already existing in other departments, yet no outreach on the part of the LHC has been done to either take advantage of or promote those. Some members were not comfortable with what was perceived as a structural problem between the LHC and general education.

There was lengthy discussion around delivery of general education courses within the Lee Honors College. Sections of COGE minutes from 11 February 2004 and 11 March 2009 that mentioned previous understandings between the LHC and COGE were reviewed. In order to determine compliance with those, members requested the LHC be asked to provide when and how many times each of the four courses had been offered. It was moved and seconded to table further review of the LHC course proposals pending receipt of requested information. Motion carried.

Continuing Business

The three subcommittees gave their reviews of general education courses for re-approval in Area IV, Other Cultures and Civilizations, and Area V, Social and Behavioral Sciences.

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Janice Anderson
Faculty Senate Office