

**WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE
COMMITTEE TO OVERSEE GENERAL EDUCATION
Monday, 13 January 2014**

Members present: Raja Aravamuthan, Tracy DeMars, Sharie Falan, Bruce Ferrin, John Geiser, Willem Homan, James Palmitessa, David Reinhold and Kathryn Wagner. **Member absent:** Mustafa Mirzeler.

Liaisons present: Kevin Knutson and Sharon Van Dyken. **Also present:** William Rantz, Faculty Senate President; Mary Lagerwey, Nursing; C. Dennis Simpson, Senate Vice President and Health and Human Services College Curriculum Committee Chair; Dini Metro Roland, Teaching, Learning and Educational Studies; James Muchmore, Teaching, Learning and Educational Studies; Jeanine Bartholomew, Director, HHS Academic and Student Services; and Janice Anderson, Faculty Senate Office.

Committee Chair John Geiser called the meeting to order at 10 a.m. He acknowledged several guests attending to discuss their departments' curriculum proposals with the committee.

Procedural Items

Acceptance of the Agenda

Approval of Minutes from the 2 December 2013 Meeting

- Acceptance of the agenda was moved and seconded. Motion carried.
- Approval of the minutes of 2 December 2013 was moved and seconded. Motion carried.

Action/Discussion Items

Review of Curriculum Proposals

1. College of Health and Human Services [CHHS 32-13] IPE 3050, Study Abroad and Global Learning in Health and Human Services – new course, approve for Area IV, Other Cultures and Civilizations

It was moved and seconded to approve IPE 3050 in Area IV for two years with the provision that the department would go through the curricular process to split this course into two courses with one in Area IV, Other Cultures and Civilizations, and one in Area II, Humanities, no later than the fall 2015 semester. Motion carried. (This arrangement was agreed upon for the benefit of students wishing to take the course this summer.)

2. Department of Philosophy [CAS 14-21] PHIL 3350, Medical Humanities – existing course, approve for Area II, Humanities.

Palmitessa moved, seconded by Falan approval of PHIL 3350 in Area II, Humanities. Motion carried.

3. Department of Human Performance and Health Education [CoEHD 473] HPHE 3320, Research and Writing in Recreation – existing course approved in Proficiency 2, Baccalaureate-Level Writing – requests change title and course number to *HPHE 4320, Research and Writing in Recreation/Sport*, change prerequisite and description

Ferrin moved seconded by Falan approval of requested changes to HPHE 3320. Motion carried.

4. Department of Teaching, Learning and Educational Studies [CoEHD 407] ES 2800, Human Flourishing and the Pursuit of Happiness – new course seeking approval in Area II, Humanities.

Palmitessa moved, seconded by Aravamuthan approval of ES 2800 in Area II, Humanities. Motion carried.

*2013-14 Review for Re-Approval of Courses in Proficiency 2,
Baccalaureate-Level Writing*

Members sought clarification of several questions and comments that arose as they reviewed materials submitted for the re-approval. They discussed:

1. Falan inquired about incomplete curriculum forms where all the questions were marked “NA.” As curriculum forms were not requested by COGE, they do not need to be considered.
2. A baccalaureate-level writing course needs to teach writing, not just course content. If it is not clear from the syllabus, the department should be asked to explain the writing assignments or supply a sample of a writing assignment to COGE.
3. Inconsistent syllabi – Reinhold suggested COGE recommend the department review inconsistencies between the syllabi submitted for review.
4. COGE felt the course syllabus must state the course fulfills baccalaureate-level writing.
5. The terms “writing intensive” and “baccalaureate-level writing” are used interchangeably in the materials and syllabi submitted for re-approval with no distinction made between them. COGE suggests using “Proficiency 2.”
6. Reinhold noted that per university policy the course description and course title MUST match the catalog copy as that is what was approved through the curriculum review process. If either the course title or course description deviates from what was approved, the course needs to go through the curriculum review process for approval to officially change the language in either of those.
7. Reinhold noted that in some instances, an essay exam could count for writing feedback depending on how much of an opportunity was provided for writing development.

Liberal Education and America’s Promise (LEAP) States Initiative – David Reinhold, Associate Provost for Assessment and Undergraduate Studies

Postponed until next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

--Janice Anderson

TABLED PROPOSALS – Action Pending
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1. Department of Psychology
[CAS 14-1] PSY 3000, Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences – requests title change to *Research Methods and Statistics*, change description and prerequisites, approval in Proficiency 2, baccalaureate-level writing
(NOTE: Course was not approved for Proficiency 2 by COGE on 18 November 2013. Response from department received. Discussion TABLED again on 2 December 2013.)
2. Department of Psychology
[CAS 14-2] PSY 3300, Behavioral Research Methods – Existing course approved in Proficiency 2, Baccalaureate-Level Writing – requests change title to *Advanced Research Methods*, change description and prerequisites
(NOTE: This course is up for 2013-14 COGE re-approval in Proficiency 2; however the department has requested the course be removed from Proficiency 2. TABLED 2 December 2013.)
3. Department of Special Education and Literacy Studies
[CoEHD 441] SPED 3300, Introduction to Special Education – Existing course seeking approval in Proficiency 2, Baccalaureate-Level Writing – requests change title to *Foundations of Special Education*, change description, prerequisite, and minimum course grade
(NOTE: TABLED 2 December 2013.)
4. Lee Honors College/Biological Sciences
[CAS1029] HNRS 4701, Global Climate Change Effects on Ecosystem and Human Health – new course, requests approval for Area VII, Natural Science and Technology: Applications and Implications
(NOTE: TABLED in 2012-13 AY – Sent email notification on 11/14/13 that proposal will be sent back to the department unless response is received.)