

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE
COMMITTEE TO OVERSEE GENERAL EDUCATION
Monday, 10 February 2014

Members present: Raja Aravamuthan, Tracy DeMars, Sharie Falan, Bruce Ferrin, Willem Homan, Mustafa Mirzeler, James Palmitessa, and David Reinhold. **Member absents:** John Geiser and Kathryn Wagner. **Liaisons present:** Kevin Knutson and Sharon Van Dyken. **Also present:** Janice Anderson, Faculty Senate Office.

Vice Chair Raja Aravamuthan chaired the meeting.

Procedural Items

Acceptance of the Agenda

Approval of Minutes from the 13 January 2014 Meeting

- Acceptance of the agenda was moved and seconded. Motion carried.
- Approval of the minutes of 13 January was moved and seconded. Motion carried.

Action/Discussion Items

Review of Curriculum Proposals

1. 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
Motion to approve SPED 3300 moved by Ferrin and seconded with one abstention. Motion carried.

2. Department of Geosciences [CAS 1101-Rev.] GEOS 2200, Climate Change: Geological Perspectives – Existing course approved in Area VII, Natural Science and Technology: Applications and Implications. Requests changing the course number to GEOS 1200, changing the course title to Climate Change Geologic

Perspective, changing the course description and retaining approval in Area VII, Natural Science and Technology: Applications and Implications. Motion to approve GEOS 2200 moved by Falan and seconded. Motion carried.

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

Subcommittees II and III reported. Reports from Subcommittees I and IV were postponed.

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

Reinhold presented on the LEAP States Initiative in support of WMU joining with other Michigan universities to become a LEAP state. Becoming a LEAP state allows a consortium of schools in that state to join in LEAP initiatives such as opportunity for collaborative efforts, dialogue and connections with other states and expands the potential for resources. Endorsement means that WMU agrees with the ideals that a liberal education is important for our students. Reinhold said there would be no loss of autonomy in joining and membership would not put more requirements on either general education or the individual disciplines.

To garner faculty support, Reinhold has presented this initiative to the Senate's Executive Board, the Ad Hoc Committee on General Education and the Undergraduate Studies Council. All have voiced interest and support. He also gave a presentation at the 6 February Faculty Senate meeting.

The USC plans to develop a resolution that can be presented to the full Senate for a vote. If supported, it will be forwarded to administration for consideration. COGE members voiced their support of the initiative as well.

Additional information on the Liberal Education and America's Promise (LEAP) States Initiative is available at <https://www.aacu.org/leap/states.cfm>

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 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. 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.)