

**WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE
COMMITTEE TO OVERSEE GENERAL EDUCATION
Minutes of 23 March 2015**

Members Present: Raja Aravamuthan, Tracy DeMars, Sharie Falan, Bruce Ferrin, John Geiser, Willem Homan, Mustafa Mirzeler, David Reinhold, Jacinda Swanson,

Member Absent: Kathryn Wagner

Liaisons Present: Kevin Knutson, Sharon Van Dyken

Staff: Sue Brodasky, Suzanne Davenport

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chair John Geiser.

PROCEDURAL ITEMS

Acceptance of the Agenda

The agenda was accepted as presented.

Approval of 23 February Minutes

A motion was made by Ferrin, supported by Mirzeler, to approve the minutes of 23 February 2015. Motion carried.

Chair's Comments – John Geiser

Geiser's comments included:

- Deadline to approve new courses is March 30 therefore this is the committee's last chance to review courses.
- Geiser and Knutson will schedule a meeting with the registrar to discuss the request for a letter of support for General Education courses in catalog student had entered under.

ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

Review of Curriculum Proposals

1. [CHHS.130-14] NUR 2200 Foundations of Nursing and Critical Thinking: change course description; retain approval in Proficiency 4: Critical Thinking.

It was noted that no syllabus was included.

A motion was made by Ferrin, seconded by Mirzeler, to table this item and for the chair to solicit additional details that were noted as missing. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Geiser, seconded by Aravamuthan, to remove the proposals, except MUS 1510, from the table to the floor for discussion. Motion carried.

2. [M10.14-15] MUS 1510 Music Appreciation: Jazz/Pop – change title to Jazz in American Culture; change description; requests approval in Area III: The United States: Cultures and Issues.

It was noted that the wrong syllabus was attached.

The proposal remained tabled.

3. [M11:14-15] MUS 3520 Non-Western Music – change title to World Music in Theory and Practice; change description, current approval in proficiency 2, baccalaureate writing.

Since Music had not been provided the rubric it will be sent there and the school will be asked to apply it to this course. It was questioned if this course is baccalaureate writing or Area IV. The course description, syllabi, and catalog all need to state what area of proficiency the course fulfills. Discussion was held regarding dual qualifications. Reinhold was asked to follow up with the Registrar's office to determine how the dual status is dealt with during the graduation audit.

Discussion was held regarding questions of review by the committee of just the course description change submitted versus review of the entire course even when it has already been reviewed initially.

A motion was made by Ferrin, seconded by Aravamuthan, to approve based on the description change as provided. Motion carried.

4. [CAS.15-37] COM 2400 Introduction to Media and Telecommunications – enrollment restrictions; request approval in Area VII: Natural Science and Technology: Applications and Implications.

The school supplied a new syllabus and responses to the committee's initial questions. Discussion was held regarding the course objectives and the key topics.

A motion was made by Aravamuthan, seconded by Homan, to approve as submitted. Motion carried.

5. [LHC.15-12] HNRS 3204 Technology in Fine Arts – new course; requests approval in Area I: Fine Arts; previously taught under HNRS 2900 Honor Seminar.

It was noted in the response received from the instructor this course may be Area VII rather than Area I. Discussion was held regarding the application of technology in the creation of art. The committee determined the course does not fit into Area I and the chair was asked to provide counsel to the instructor and the Honors College prior to resubmission.

A motion was made by Ferrin, seconded by Mirzeler, to table this item. Motion carried.

6. [LHC.15-11] HNRS 3203 Introduction to Game Design – new course; requests approval in Area II: Humanities; previously taught under HNRS 2900 Honor Seminar.

The committee felt the response from the instructor did not effectively meet the request for additional information. Again the Chair was asked to provide counsel to the instructor and the Honors College prior to resubmission.

A motion was made by Ferrin, seconded by Mirzeler, to table this item. Motion carried.

7. [LHS.15-07] HNRS 2900 Honor Seminar: The Texas Tour – requests approval as HNRS 3304 The Texas Tour in Area III: The United States: Cultures and Issues.

It was questioned how the course addresses culture and issues in a substantial way. It appears to lack a tie between Texas history and U.S. history. The committee reviewed the direction of the service learning project. Discussion was held.

A motion was made by Ferrin, seconded by Mirzeler, to table this item and for the chair to solicit additional details. Motion carried.

8. [LHC.15-08] HNRS 2900 Honors Seminar: Vues d' Afrique – requests approval as HNRS 3401 Vues d' Afrique in Area IV: Other Cultures and Civilizations.

Discussion was held regarding the additional information received.

A motion was made by Mirzeler, seconded by Aravamuthan, to approve as submitted. There was one abstention. Motion carried.

The committee felt that more discussion was needed regarding short-term study abroad and whether they are general education.

Review of Baccalaureate Writing and Area II Rubrics

The committee was asked to forward any notes or suggestions to the Chair prior to the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting is scheduled for April 6. The meeting was adjourned at 11:32 a.m. by Chair John Geiser.

Sue Brodasky, Faculty Senate Administrator