

**WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE
COMMITTEE TO OVERSEE GENERAL EDUCATION
Minutes of 6 April 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

Liaison Present: Sharon Van Dyken

Liaison Absent: Kevin Knutson

Staff: Sue Brodasky

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m. by Chair John Geiser.

PROCEDURAL ITEMS

Acceptance of the Agenda

The agenda was accepted as presented.

Approval of 23 March Minutes

A motion was made by Ferrin, supported by Van Dyken, to approve the minutes of 23 March 2015. Motion carried.

Chair's Comments – John Geiser

Geiser's comments included:

- Upon receipt of the correct syllabus and additional information, the proposal has been approved for [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.
- HNRS 3304 Texas Tour has been pulled from consideration at this time.

ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

Review of Curriculum Proposals

A motion was made by Geiser to remove the three proposals below from the table. Ferrin seconded the motion, and it carried.

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

The school was asked for a description of how the course met the criteria for proficiency 4c: critical thinking, which was submitted. The instructor was unaware of this being done, had been done by interim

director. Based on new information, COGE was willing to approve the proposal. Assessment is only about 20% which is low for critical thinking but that is just nit picking. Noted that all of the exercises cover critical thinking even though there is just one outcome that covers it. Discussion of ATI exam being used.

A motion was made by Ferrin, seconded by Aravamuthan, to approve the proposal. Motion carried.

2. [CAS.15-86] CHEM 1900 Chemistry in Society – change title to Chemistry of Climate Change; change description; request approval for Area VII: Natural Sciences and Technology: Applications and Implications.

The most recent documentation supports that the course meets criteria for Area VII. It was confirmed that a course can be approved for an area as well as a proficiency.

Ferrin moved, supported by Homan, to approve the proposal. Motion carried.

3. [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.

Additional documentation was received by the Lee Honors College. Based on materials provided, it was suggested to change to Area VII. Ferrin questioned distinction on technology and traditionally based art.

Ferrin moved to approve the proposal with the modification of the title to remove the word "fine". The motion was seconded by Mirzeler and it carried. By consensus, COGE approved changing the course from Area I: Fine Arts, to Area VII: Natural Sciences and Technology: Applications and Implications. Reinhold will consult with the Lee Honors College to see if it agrees with the change in title and the change to Area VII, and pending its approval, he will request a revised form and signatures.

Review of Baccalaureate Writing Rubric

Committee members approved the rubric for baccalaureate-level writing. It will be posted on the Faculty Senate website and ask for feedback and can begin using it. Senate to send the rubric out via email and have the Undergraduate Studies Council send annual email about where to find the rubrics and be sure they are used when submitting.

Development of Area II and Area III Rubrics

Area II learning outcomes are just working definitions on this form. This rubric needs to have the criteria defined. Need to define procedures, requiring course caps, syllabus, etc. discussion held. Edited administrative criteria, and will distribute for next meeting. Focus on area outcomes at next meeting.

Policy Discussions

1. Discussion was held on General Education credit for a one week course/experience.
2. Is the current policy in regards to Lee Honors College courses flawed? It allows the LHC to offer a new course the first time for General Education. What can be done to make a better process?

Other Rubrics

Subcommittee assignments:

1. DeMars, Geiser, Homan – Areas III and IV
2. Aravamuthan, Ferrin, Knutson – Areas V and VII
3. Reinhold, Swanson, Wagner – Areas I and VI
4. Falan, Mirzeler, VanDyken – Areas II and VIII

ADJOURNMENT

The last meeting is scheduled for April 20. The meeting was adjourned at 11:24 a.m. by Chair John Geiser.

Sue Brodasky, Faculty Senate Administrator