

General Education Council Meeting
Minutes
February 10, 2014
3:00pm WS 2803

Present: Kim Barron, Dwight Brady, Mike Burgmeier, David Donovan, Katerina Klawes, Jill Leonard (Chair), Carolyn Lowe, Andy Poe, Kim Rotundo, Kristen Smith, Robert Winn,

1. **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of 1/13/14 approved.

2. **Announcements & Reminders**
 - a. Reports from Conferences
 - i. **Reforming Your General Education Curriculum** January 29 - 31, 2014 Chicago, IL. POST-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP Assessing the Quality of Your General Education Program. **Leonard, Lowe, & Smith attending.**
There seems to be a big push for interdisciplinary courses in Gen Ed programs. We received positive feedback for how we've gone about revising our Gen Ed program.

3. **Trial runs with Quant, CCTP, and Intercultural** – all DH contacted
 - a. Quant:
 - ii. Econ – yes (all sections of Econ 101)
 - iii. Chem – yes (Roeker CH111)
 - iv. Biol – no word back
 - b. CCTP:
 - v. Eng – yes (EN211)
 - vi. Soc – yes (Ciupak Soc113)
 - vii. Music – no word back
 - c. Intercultural
 - viii. NAS – yes (Brozzo NAS 204)
 - ix. HIS – no word back
 - x. Languages – no word back
 - d. Last semester
 - xi. Data received for Psych (but only 1 student)
 - xii. No data received for Physics or Math yet (promised)

Rotundo will obtain rosters for the winter trial run classes so we can request rubric data on a selected number of students.

4. **Discussion of Model Input from Forums and Survey**

There was more support for Models B & C, with a slightly greater preference for Model C. We discussed sending the survey responses to faculty. We agreed this would be beneficial. Leonard will review responses and edit out any inappropriate comments before emailing a

copy to the faculty. We will look at sharing the survey responses with students and the broader university community at a later date.

We developed a list of central themes from the responses.

We need to demonstrate how a revised program is better than the current program.

Leonard suggested having GenEd outcomes inserted into a course in every major as a way to bring GenEd & the major together and have more upper division courses. Leonard also suggested creating interdisciplinary GenEd courses. Issues such as course development and course loads would have to be worked out. Both ideas would be an opportunity to put an NMU stamp on the courses/program.

We agreed to concentrate on modifying Model C.

5. Discussion of written composition issues (and English proposal)

We discussed a number of ideas about an English competency or proficiency requirement; proficiency at the EN 211 level, not two courses or 8 credits necessarily, a graduation requirement rather than part of the GenEd Program, etc. It was suggested that we submit such a proposal when we propose our model/outcomes. Leonard will initiate a discussion with the English Department.

6. Good of the Order

None

Next meeting, Thursday, February 20, 10:30-12:00.

Look at revising Model C in light of forum feedback and composition proposal.

Respectfully submitted,
Mike Burgmeier