Western Connecticut State University  

Committee on General Education Minutes

Minutes of the meeting of Friday, December 1, 2017  
Haas Library – Room 508 – Scheduled: 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

Recording: Leslie Lindenauer  
Guests: C. Bandhauer, K. Custer, K. Gauvin, A. Manes, E. Sabovik, H. Williams, R. Whittemore  
Meeting convened: 1:33 P.M.

I. MINUTES:  
a. Motion to approve the minutes of the November 3, 2017 meeting without revision (O’Brien/McDaniel) CARRIES with no objections or abstentions.

II. CUCAS Report: Tabled in J. Hamer’s absence

III. OLD BUSINESS: Committee agreed to delay, to address as time allows after course designations, carried over as needed to the special meeting of the committee on December 8, 2017.

IV. NEW BUSINESS:  
A. Course Proposals  
   1. Competency Request for Jazz Vocal Ensemble delayed, awaiting J. Begian’s arrival.

   2. Motion to consider PS 102 Competency Change and Outline (McDaniel), seconded (Walker) and passed unanimously.

   3. Motion to consider competency assignment for PS 104 (McDaniel) seconded (Walker), passed unanimously.

   4. Motion to consider competency assignment for PS 100 (O’Brien) seconded (McDaniel) passed unanimously.

   5. Motion to consider SI Competency for ANT 229 (Summer Field School in Archeology) passed unanimously.

B. Update on Assessments of Compeptencies  
   1. Update on QR review postponed in J. Hamer’s absence.
2. Kelli Custer updated the committee on assessment of FY Competency
   a. The “Educated Person” component of the NEASC assessment has been proposed but not yet voted on. Needs the Committee’s consideration.
   b. Coordinating Writing II course assessment. A standard protocol for writing assessment exists, needs the attention of an ad hoc committee to implement it across the competency. Robin suggested that WII can be added to QR as a competency to assess this year. Robin confirmed with Kelli that Writing I courses would be assessed by the Writing Department.
   c. There was a question as to whether the revisions to the FY Competency had been approved at a previous Gen Ed meeting. It was suggested that Wynn Gadkar-Wilcox might be able to address that question. If the revisions have been approved, they need to go to the Senate for a vote.

RETURN TO: Consideration of assigning CP Competency to Jazz Vocal Ensemble consideration of CP Competency

Motion to approve the assignment of CP to the course (McDaniel) and seconded (Walker). Discussion – Course description missing the defined Learning Outcomes/Definitions for CP. Competency approved contingent on the addition of Competency Definitions to the course description.

RETURN TO: III. OLD BUSINESS
A. Replacement for Critical Thinking Competency: Motion made and withdrawn to use the E1 Definitions (Logical Reasoning and Textual Analysis), pending review and clarification of previous discussion on the subject.

Discussion: Cross-campus acknowledgment that Critical Thinking as a competency was not working from the perspective of both implementation and assessment; suggestions ran the gamut from eliminating it from the curriculum altogether, to dividing it into two competencies.

RETURN TO:
IV. NEW BUSINESS:

C. Motion to divide critical thinking into two competencies, Logical Reasoning and Textual Analysis (Walker/Lindenauer)

Discussion: Questions regarding the process by which courses would qualify for the new competencies (automatically, at the discretion of the departments proposing the courses or on consideration of the Committee on General Education); concern about distinct and specific definitions and Learning Outcomes for the new competencies.

Motion to table the motion to divide CT into two new competencies pending the work of an ad hoc committee (Dalton, McDaniels, O’Brien, and Lindenauer) to define and detail the new competencies and learning outcomes. Passed with four in the affirmative, one negative.
The committee voted to table the other issues under New Business, for consideration on December 8th.

Discussion about the nature of the Dec. 8 meeting included concerns about time limits for visitors, as well as additions to the agenda for that meeting. R. Gustafson asked that revisions be forwarded to her as soon as possible. After consideration of the revision to Critical Thinking, the committee would then consider revisions to the Inter Cultural Competency.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn at 3:45 p.m. CARRIES.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Lindenauer
Interim FY Coordinator
Department of History and Non-Western Cultures