General Education Committee Meeting Minutes  
December 6, 2018

Members Present: Rocca, Gustafson, Brown, Miller, Lumbantobing

2:56 PM: A motion to approve the minutes from the 11/08/2018 meeting was made by Gustafson and seconded by Lumbantobing. The motion passed 5-0-1. Rocca, Gustafson, Walker, Lumbantobing and Miller voted yes. Brown abstained. No one voted “nay.”

2:58 PM: Brown made a motion (Gustafson seconded) to consider the following new course proposals from philosophy and humanistic studies as a batch:
- CD1819068: HUM 4xx Development and Humanitarian Ethics/Study Abroad
- CD1819067: HUM 2xx Thinking about Race
- CD1819064: PHI 2xx Engaged Philosophy: Peace & Justice Studies
- CD1819029: HUM 2xx Immigration: Rights and Wrongs
- CD1819031: HUM/HPX 2xx Approaches to Well-Being in Indo-Tibetan Philosophy
- CD1819028: HUM 1xx FY for the Humanities
- CD1819030: HUM/HPX 2xx Indigenous Spirituality & Environmental Activism
- CD1819063: HUM 2xx Introduction to Cultural Studies
- CD1819062: HUM 3xx Knowledge and Power

3:00 PM: The above motion was approved unanimously.

3:01 P.M.: Gustafson motioned (Brown seconded) that the following competency changes from philosophy courses be considered as a batch:
- CD1819070: change gen ed competencies for PHI 240, 241, 242, 244, 245
- CD1819069: change gen ed competencies for HUM 212 and HUM 213
- CD1819061: change gen ed competencies for PHI 231, 232, 233, 234

3:02 P.M.: The above motion was approved unanimously to change the course’s competencies from Critical Thinking to Writing Intensive II. All of these courses other prior competencies remain unchanged.

3:06 P.M. Gustafson motioned (Walker seconded) to approve adding the Culminating Experience and Writing Intensive III competencies to PSY 412.

3:07 PM: The above motion passed unanimously.

3:09 PM Gustafson motioned (Lumbantobing seconded) a motion to table consideration of the following course proposals to the February meeting:
- CD1819074: HIS 3XX Slavery and Abolition in the Atlantic World
- CD1819058: HIS 4XX War, Peace, & Memory 20th C Lat Am
- CD1819054: PS 2xx Presidential Leadership and the Legislative Process

3:10 PM: The above motion was approved unanimously.
3:11 PM: Consideration of Agenda Item: **Proposal: Require students to complete four repeat competencies excluding FY, W and CE.**

3:12 PM: Gustafson and Rocca discussed whether more data is needed to make this change. Rocca mentioned that students may already be taking four competencies.

3:13 PM: Brown expressed concerns about how this may affect transfer students. Gustafson said that the issue of transfer students needed further discussion.

3:16 PM: Lumbantobing motioned (Walker seconded) to table the agenda item: Proposal: Require students to complete four repeat competencies excluding FY, W and CE. The motion passed 5-1-0. Rocca, Miller, Walker, Lumbantobing, and Brown voted yes. Gustafson voted no.

3:18 PM Consideration of agenda item: **Proposal: Review the rotation of assessment, again, and bring it into alignment with TAP.**

3:20 PM Gustafson motioned (Walker seconded) to amend the current rotation of assessment to include the Writing Intensive II competency in the 2020-2021 academic year. The motion passed unanimously.

3:22 PM: Consideration of agenda item: **Students who fail to complete the FY competency in their first year at Western Connecticut State University will be excused from this requirement provided they have successfully completed 24 credit hours and have a GPA of at least 2.0.**

3:23 PM: Rocca noted that this mirrors the policy for transfer students that was passed last year.

3:34 A motion was made by Gustafson (Miller seconded) to excuse all students who have successfully completed 24 credit hours and have a GPA of at least 2.0 from the FY competency. The motion passed 4-1-1. Rocca, Miller, Walker, Gustafson voted yes. Lumbantobing voted no. Brown abstained.

3:36 PM: Consideration of Agenda Item: **Honors Council Competencies and Modes of Inquiry Alignment.**

3:40 though 3:52: Motion proposed by Gustafson (Brown seconded): Whether to allow the Honors Council to designate its own classes with the following general education designations without approval from the General Education Committee: Critical Thinking, Quantitative Reasoning, Scientific Inquiry, and Intercultural Competence. The motion failed 0-4-2. No one voted yes. Miller, Gustafson, Lumbantobing, and Brown voted no. Walker and Rocca abstained.

The committee discussed taking electronic votes on general education designation proposals from the Honors Council in order to expedite their approval given the expedited deadline on which Honors Courses must be approved.
The committee expressed concerns about the effect of bypassing the general education committee would have on the general education process.