

Minutes of the General Education Committee
Wednesday, March 11, 2009
Hawai'i Hall 208

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:34 p.m. by Vice Chair Scott Rowland.

Present: Susan Johnson, Mike Nassir, Scott Rowland, Carolyn Stephenson, George Wong

Ex officio: Ron Cambra (OVCAA), Jan Heu (A&R), David Ross (SEC)

Guests: Lisa Fujikawa (GEO), Duane Henry (GEO), Jo-Anne Nakamoto (GEO Recorder)

Excused: Lynne Higa, Mike Kirk-Kuwaye

MINUTES: Minutes of the February 25, 2009 meeting were accepted and approved with the following corrections: Action/Information Item #5 – before first bullet, line added (*Among the matters discussed*); Third Bullet was reworded to, “*Unlike FG and FW, FS has 200-level courses, which gives the impression that students may take them in their first two years.*”

1. Focus (multiple designations) and Diversification votes
 - There were no proposals with multiple designations to vote on at this time.
 - The Diversification sub-committee made the following recommendations:
ANTH 429 – DS
ANTH 460 – DB
PACS 202 – DS
GEC vote: 5 in favor, none opposed.

2. FG & FS data update – Henry and Fujikawa
 - FG cohort consists of students continuously enrolled for 4 semesters.
 - Fulfillment cumulative. Shortfall of 250-300 by the end of the 4th semester, or approximately 25%.
 - Doesn't appear to be a seat availability issue.
 - Seems like less priority to fulfill FG requirement, and not displaying a “phobia” of FG courses.
 - Students do not appear to have trouble completing the courses.
 - Approximately 50-75% of students in each FG course are lower classmen.
 - Drop off in fulfillment rate observed after first year in both FS and FG courses.
 - By the end of the 4th quarter, almost all students have taken their first FG course.
 - Discussion:
 - Are they informed? Are they advised that FG should be taken in the first year?
 - An academic plan is extremely important.

- Could we state (in catalog), “students shall complete . . .” What problems/technicalities would we encounter?
 - Are we leaning towards making this a two-year requirement, a “relaxing” of the requirement?
 - Suggestion of FS Math, Phil for freshmen only.
 - FW issue had different reasons vs. FS.
 - Suggestion that the GEC prepare a report summarizing the discussion on FS and FG in AY 09, along with preliminary recommendations and supporting information; to possibly be included in the body of the GEC’s annual report to the Faculty Senate.
3. Ross stated that an Ad Hoc Committee was tasked with determining the Assessment Office’s reporting lines; possibly to be structured in a similar manner as the General Education Office (GEO). He asked if the GEC felt there were problems with the way GEO is structured (response: “no”).

Next meeting to be determined; GEC will be notified if there is online voting needed for multiple-designation and course-based proposals.

Meeting adjourned at 2:39 p.m.

Submitted by: Jo-Anne Nakamoto, Recorder