MINUTES OF THE GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO

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November 16, 2018

Chair James called the meeting to order in HML 4115 Haak Conference room.

1. Approval of Agenda

2. Approval of Minutes

3. Communications and Announcements

a. CI 152 Adolescent Learning and Development (Chadley)

b. GE Themes

c. GE Proposal Rubric (Spee, Erica, Chris)

d. Submitting GE Artifacts/ DiscoverE (Spee)

4. Old Business

a. MUSIC4A (Chris/Chadley)

b. 161A (Chadley)

c. 161B (Melissa/Devendra)

d. HON 20/21 Doug Fraleigh 1pm-1:20pm

5. New Business

6. Adjournment

Attending:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Member** | **College** |  |
| David Kinnunen | CHH | x |
| Chadley James | CSS | x |
| Spee Kosloff | CSM | x |
| Christina Luna | KSOEHD | x |
| Steven Payne | CSM |  |
| Devendra Sharma | CAH | x |
| Yushin Ahn | LCE |  |
| Lynn Williams | JCA | x |
| Kathy Dunbar | Student Affairs | x |
| Xuanning Fu | Undergrad Studies |  |
| Melissa Jordine, Guest | University assessment |  |
| Erica Lassen, Guest | Articulation | x |
| Chris Beck | ASI Student Rep | x |

Approval of Agenda

2. Approval of Minutes - Approved unanimously, with 1 abstention

3. Communications and Announcements

a. CI 152 Adolescent Learning and Development (Chadley)

* Chadley sent out third follow up email to intiator, also CC’d department chair and received a reply, but since has heard nothing back
* Spee suggested to let the department know that there is one remaining meeting for the Fall semester

b. GE Themes

* Chadley stated that now that the themes have been approved, the committee needs to move forward with asking departments which courses they would like to include in thematic tracks
* Kathy brough suggestions from conversations with faculty at CSU Chico. First, it was suggested that there be a “non-thematic” track available for students as, at Chico, 45% of students opted out of the themes which required petitions. Additionally, it was suggested to include reasonings for why a course was included in a thematic track.
* Chris clarified that the GE themes were intended to be opt in, with students picking to take a theme as opposed to be required to complete one. Spee further stated that departments should have options to not include any of their courses in thematic tracks
* Additional concerns were brought about the presence of themes potentially pressuring departments to offer more sections of “theme” classes. Spee further mentioned that if we find that courses aren’t found to fit in themes, there might be issues with the themes themselves which may need to be revised.
* Further discussion ensued regarding the need to make sure that departments are included in the process. Spee and Lynn both mentioned the need the frame the conversation with departments by stating that there are no changes to learning outcomes or any cost, and that the benefit is helping students focus GE classes on their interests. Additionally, it was reiterated that departments would ultimately decide where and if to place their GE courses. Spee mentioned again the importance of having a cutoff of “no theme” suggestions from departments where it would be clear that the themes do not fit the existing courses of the GE pattern.
* A resolution was put forward to ask the departments to review the themes and put forward which courses they believe best fit the themes. It was also suggested that departments, if they felt a course fit in multiple themes, they rank which of two themes they feel best fits. Departments would also be able to decide that a given GE course does not fit to a theme. Prior to departments being asked to make a suggestion they will be provided with relevant background information, and reminded that the thematic tracks will not impact course content, and that the themes benefit students by providing direction, clarity, and focus in selecting courses.
* The resolution was passed unanimously with one abstention.

New Business

1. HON 20/21 - Doug Fraleigh 1pm-1:20pm
   * Spee suggested that there was a concern with the “iterative writing requirement,” where the intent of the requirement was to require a draft that would receive feedback and then be edited to reflect that feedback. It was suggested to add a second draft to the thousand word assignment in the syllabus to meet that requirement.
   * Chadley raised another question regarding if the assignments met the specific learning outcomes. In the revised syllabus, required presentations were added and subsequently described which Spee found met the learning outcomes.
   * Spee addressed another concern with the grading scale and assignment points, where there is confusion if the points for an assignment are coming from the written or oral aspect of the assignment. Spee reiterated the three suggestions, which are 1) that there is a clear description of the thousand word iterative requirement, 2) to clearly identify in the Course Schedule that feedback on the first draft of the iterative assignment would be given in a timely enough way for students to complete and submit their revisions, and 3) clearly designated how points are allocated based on oral and written components of the presentations, and stated that conditionally based on them the course would likely be ready to approve.

New Business:

1. MUSIC 161B / MUSIC 161A
   1. Melissa mentioned in communications to that because the department wants a waiver for IC based on Music 161B, and so they would need more information regarding the courses before giving the waiver. Chadley will reach out to Xuanning and Matt Darling to make sure to get that information.
2. MUSIC4A (Chris/Chadley)
   1. Chadley and Chris pointed out issues with the syllabus regarding the lack of GE outcomes, no descriptions of the assignments or how they meet learning outcomes, and the attendance policy. There were concerns about how to evaluate the course since the department is seeking a waiver for C1 and not requesting MUSIC 4A become a GE course. Chadley will follow up on finding if there is a set criteria for evaluating GE waivers.
3. Submitting GE Artifacts / DiscoverE
   1. Spee worked with Melissa to create a step-by-step email that was sent to students detailing how to submit E-Portfolio assignments. Students were told to address questions to the DiscoverE hub and responded that they went to the hub and that there questions were not answered. Spee wanted the committee to be aware of issues with training in regard to the DiscoverE hub.
4. GE Proposal Rubrics
   1. Spee created an updated list of questions to evaluate proposals from that were utilized by Chris and Erica to create two different forms. Next meeting, these different formats will be presented.

6. Adjournment - 1:37 PM