General Education Committee Meeting Minutes

October 17, 2013

Members Present: Brooke Burk, Carol Van Der Karr, Bruce Mattingly, Lisa Czirr, Emily Quinlan, David Smukler, Sonia Sharma, Yomee Lee, William Skipper,

 Tim Gerhard

Members Absent: Sam Kelley

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| **Topic** | **Comments** | **Action** |
| 1. Review/Approval of Minutes from Oct 3
 | Review of Minutes | Minutes approved. |
| 1. Welcome
 | The new members were briefed on the current agenda. David asked if the people affected by the suspension of GE 2014 assessments are being informed?  | Brooke will inform people who will be affected by the GE suspension. |
| 1. Discussion on ``GE Survey’’
 | GE survey subcommittee members met before the meeting and a rough draft of observations and ideas for questions was presented before the committee for discussion.David: * Why do we need data on double-dipping.
* The Flexibility question could be phrased as: *The first survey suggested that we need more flexibility. Do we need more flexibility? If yes……*

Yomee asked for clarification on requiring data for the transfer credits for science courses.Carol: * It would suffice to just know how many courses double dip.
* GE Elective question on the survey needs to be carefully phrased.
* We have the most GEs. Many schools have already looked at their GEs and reviewed 7 out of 10. Some schools have collapsed Presentation skills and Writing requirements. Some schools have embedded their local GE’s in the 7 out of 10.
* During last restructuring of GE at SUNY Cortland, people felt strongly about the local GEs.
* Maybe GE 12 can be embedded in the Natural Sciences category.

Bill suggested that we should not provide too many options in the survey.  |  |
| 1. Discussion on ``Open Meeting’’
 | Carol shared a draft of what the open meeting would look like. Bill suggested that the survey and the open meeting have to be closely related. May be the survey could structure the open meeting.David: * The open meeting should have questions regarding ``flexibility issues’’ since our survey focuses on that.
* Instead of Focus Groups, maybe we could call it Open Meeting/Discussion.

Bruce: Meeting with SGA representatives can help with getting the student involved in the discussion. It was also discussed that this might be a good year to have a student representative present in the committee. Need committee members present at the open meetings. | Next meeting the committee members will sign up to attend the Open Meetings.  |
| 1. Policy Regarding no more than two GE’s in a discipline to satisfy GE Requirement
 | Carol: * There is no SUNY requirement about this.
* It may give exposure to different learning outcomes but not to different disciplines.

Bill: * This also limits flexibility which goes against GE goals.

**Motion**: (David) Remove the statement regarding more than two GE courses to satisfy GE requirement from GE policies; seconded by Yomee. | Motion passed (All in favor) |
| 1. Retro-actively giving credits for courses
 | Discussions suggested dealing with questions about how far back do we go. Also that there are already fixes to these issues such as “course substitution”. Bruce asked what was the reason behind discussing the issue of retro-actively giving credits. Carol explained the reason to be mainly student complaints. |  |
|   |  Meeting Adjourned 9:10 am  |  |

 Submitted by Sonia Sharma

Approved 10/31/2013