General Education Committee Minutes

Thursday, August 25, 2022
11:00 a.m. – 11:56 a.m.
Zoom

Present
Qin Geng, Matthew Junker, Mahfuzul Khondaker for Ko-Hsin Hsu, Erin Kraal, Khori Newlander, Megan O’Byrne, Krista Prock, Karen Rauch, Kathy Stanfa

Also Present
Bethany French, Patricia Kelleher, Christine Saidi

Call to order
M. O’Byrne called the meeting to order at 11:00 am

I. Approval of Minutes
   a. Minutes from April 21, 2022
      i. No edits
      ii. It was moved by E. Kraal, and seconded by M. Junker, to approve the Minutes. MOTION PASSED.

II. Announcements
   a. None

III. Proposals
   a. LAS 22043: HIS 204 (Category A4)
      i. P. Kelleher and C. Saidi were present to answer any questions about this proposal.
      ii. It was moved by M. Junker, and seconded by Q. Geng, to approve this proposal. MOTION PASSED.
   b. LAS 22066: ENG 117 (Category D)
      i. E. Kraal had a question about the breakdown between creating and analyzing in Category D courses. M. O’Byrne answered that some courses, like those in the arts, focus more on the act of creating, and others focus on the analysis to understand the creative process. K. Newlander added that it is about engagement with the process of creation, but does not restrict the category to only those courses that create an item.
      ii. K. Rauch noted a typo on page 3 of the syllabus, where the course is referred to as ENG 121. M. Junker stated he will let the department know to correct that.
      iii. It was moved by M. Junker and seconded by Q. Geng, to approve this proposal. MOTION PASSED.
IV. New Business
   a. Preparing for 5-year Program Review
      i. M. O’Byrne noted that this program review is for all of General Education, and that this committee will need to work with the General Education Assessment Committee to complete the self-study report. The report needs to be completed by the end of the academic year, and will primarily be focused on the current general education model which was implemented in 2018. She added that GEC will need to determine working groups to complete the items, and suggested working on half in the fall and half in the spring.
      ii. K. Newlander asked who the audience is for the report, as that can affect how it is written. Is it for ourselves, for outside reviewers, for PASSHE, etc? K. Rauch responded that the report is no longer sent to PASSHE, but it will be sent to external reviewers who are not familiar with this committee and their work. K. Rauch noted that it is a way for us to reflect and see what is working and what is not working, and to be able to ask for resources or guidance as needed. While the program review is not done for Middle States, they recommended that General Education be added to the 5-year program review schedule.
      iii. M. O’Byrne shared her screen to review the AGLS Guide. She plans to use this to guide GEC’s self-study program review process. Discussion ensued.
         a. E. Kraal suggested regrouping their questions to better serve KU’s Gen Ed work. K. Rauch noted some of these may be more suitably answered by GEAC
         b. M. O’Byrne requested volunteers to work on rearranging these questions to better fit our process. E. Kraal and K. Rauch volunteered to help with this. These three will meet and rearrange the questions to bring to the next GEC meeting.

V. Other Business
   a. Notes from M. O’Byrne:
      i. She is restructuring some items. M. O’Byrne will handle everything on D2L, and B. French will update the website as needed. M. O’Byrne has already reorganized the D2L page to be in reverse chronological order.
      ii. She plans to have the agenda and all additional documents on D2L for all members to access 7 days prior to each meeting. Any updates after that will be emailed to committee members.
      iii. M. O’Byrne asked for input about how to handle paperwork and results from this committee, especially to report back to the colleges. Members should email her with suggestions.
   b. Next meeting will have an election for vice chair and secretary. Committee members are encouraged to self-nominate for these positions.
c. K. Newlander asked about the status of the JEDI review that was done last year. K. Rauch stated that she was told that Cabinet has extended the deadline of the JEDI report submission to Dec 2022.

d. K. Rauch suggested that GEC consider branding the Gen Ed curriculum. She suggested using a name that is particular to KU, such as Golden Bear Core or KUest. Discussion ensued.

VI. Next meeting: September 15 (continuation on September 20, as needed)

VII. Move to adjourn by K. Newlander, seconded by K. Stanfa. Meeting ended at 11:55am.