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December 9, 2010 General Studies Council Minutes

University of Nebraska at Kearney General Studies Council

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General Studies Council Minutes
December 9, 2010 Special Meeting – 3:30 p.m.
Founders Hall, Warner Conference Room
Approved via email 1/28/11

Present: Debbie Bridges, Kim Elliott, Ralph Hanson, Sherri Harms, Daryl Kelley, Ron Konecny, Sonja Kropp, Marta Moorman, Daren Snider, Ken Trantham, Ron Wirtz

Absent: Sylvia Asay, Jeanne Butler, Mary Daake, Tommy Eshleman, Katie Hall, Tommy Hansen, Kristi Milks, Darleen Mitchell, Jan Moore, Kim Schipporeit

Guests: Greg Broekemier, Ross Taylor

I. Call to Order:

Director Daren Snider called the meeting to order and the council approved the agenda, with allowance to move through the items in a manner that accommodates guests.

II. Other:

a. CAAP Test

The last CAAP test will be given tonight. Tests will then be submitted to ACT for scoring.

b. eCampus Stipends

Snider has applied for and received \$12,500 in stipend money from eCampus for faculty to develop online General Studies courses:

\$2,500 for faculty who have never taught an online course

\$1,500 for faculty who have taught online but want to develop a GS online course

\$1,000 for professional development for faculty who are teaching online for the 1st time

\$500 for professional development for faculty who have taught GS courses online but want to develop more courses

c. TaskStream

Snider met with SVC Bicak to discuss student reaction to the requirement to purchase and use TaskStream.

Consensus is that once this tool becomes part of institutional culture, problems will be alleviated. Information will be distributed at student orientation and in admissions packets given to new students.

d. Discussion of Capstone Guidelines

Broekemier and Taylor addressed asked questions about capstone course submissions. Discussion focused on the proper balance of various disciplines in capstone courses, and issue of course duplication among departments with similar disciplines. The Council reaffirmed that the purpose of capstones is to develop critical thinking, that the topic is the vehicle for the critical thinking, that two departments could use the same topic but approach it in different ways, and that a capstone cannot be listed as a course in any program (neither as a requirement nor an elective).

III. Open Items:

a. Course Approvals:

In the absence of a quorum, the following course was approved to be sent via email as a seconded motion to GSC for online vote and then to the SVCASA for final approval:

CSIS 388: Social Networking (capstone) – Kelly/Hanson moved, motion carried.

b. Rubric/instruments for Capstone category:

The capstone rubric was approved to send to GSC for online vote and then to campus for comment. Trantham/Kropp moved, motion carried.

IV. New Business:

a. Allowing new GS program courses to count in old GS program

In the case of distribution courses that are part of the new GS program but not the old program, can students on catalogs prior to 2010-2011 get GS credit for them? After discussion, Council agreed that students must ordinarily follow the program for their catalog year. Advisors will be reminded to carefully check catalog and program when advising upper class students into their General Studies courses.

V. Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, February 3, 2011, at 3:30 p.m., Warner Conference Room.