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October 1, 2009 General Studies Council Minutes

University of Nebraska at Kearney General Studies Council

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General Studies Council Minutes
October 1, 2009 Meeting – 3:30 p.m.
Founders Hall, Academic Affairs Conference Room
Approved via email 10/28/09

Present: Vijay Agrawal, Sylvia Asay, Debbie Bridges, Jeanne Butler, Tommy Eshleman, Sherri Harms, Ralph Hanson, Daryl Kelley, Sonja Kropp, Kristi Milks, Darleen Mitchell, Janet Moore, Marta Moorman, Kim Schipporeit, Daren Snider, Ron Wirtz

Absent: Mary Daake, Tommy Hansen, Carol Lilly

Guests: Paul Burger, Kerri Farnsworth Hoback, Suzanne Maughan, Mike Mosher, Ken Trantham

I. Call to Order:

Director Snider called the meeting to order. The Open Items will be moved to the top of the agenda to accommodate the guests who wish to speak to issues in that part of the agenda.

II. New Business:

a. PHYS/CHEM/BIOL/GEOL 385 Brewing Science:

Mike Mosher, Carrie Farnsworth-Hoback and Ken Trantham presented the Council with the proposed Brewing Science course to explain its rationale and safety procedures, and to answer questions.

b. Common Assessment Tools (Jeanne Butler):

Tabled until a future General Studies Meeting.

c. Faculty Senate Motion of 9/3/09:

Snider distributed the Faculty Senate Motions from the 9/30/09 meeting.

Response from the General Studies Council

The GSC has always invited input from the campus community to inform its deliberations and continues to do so. The Council discussed the Faculty Senate recommendation of September 3rd to "take input from colleges" about the new program. In harmony with its desire to implement the best possible program for students, the Council invites input from the colleges about the new program. To date, the College of Business and Technology has provided two recommendations to the Council, for which the Council is grateful. The Council requests that any input from the colleges be submitted by Thursday, October 29th, in time for its November meeting. The Council affirms that it will give all due consideration to any input in a timely manner. (Written by D. Snider as directed by the GSC, based on discussion at the 10/1/09 meeting. Read at the 10/1/09 Faculty Senate meeting.)

Eshleman distributed recommendations about the new GS program from the College of Business and Technology.

III. Open Items:

a. GS Learning Outcomes:

Guests Mosher, Farnsworth-Hoback, Trantham, Burger and Maughan spoke to the Council regarding suggestions they have about the learning outcomes for Natural Sciences and Social Sciences. The Council will take their recommendations into consideration. Snider will notify the guests of the Councils' decision.

The Council considered an email from Linda Van Ingen, Director for Women's Studies, regarding adding gender into the GS outcomes. Council members noted that this constituted a major change in the program and assessment. Snider called for a motion from the floor regarding this request and there was none.

IV. Announcements:

Daren will divide the Council members into diverse partnerships of 3 people from different colleges and departments to review the course proposals for the new General Studies Program.

V. Other:

VI. Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

NEXT SPECIAL MEETING: Thursday, October 8, 2009

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Thursday, November 5, 2009 at 3:30 p.m., Warner Conference Room.

Respectfully submitted, Kristi Milks