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March 2002 General Studies Council Minutes

University of Nebraska at Kearney General Studies Council

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GENERAL STUDIES COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting: March 7, 2002

PRESENT: Peg Camp, Sandy Cook-Fong, Jeanne Cutler, Don Envick, Randall Heckman, Sonja Kropp, John Lillis, Marta Moorman, Ken Nikels, Kim Schipporeit, Marguerite Tassi and Bill Wozniak

ABSENT: Clint Ludeman

Bill Wozniak, Director, called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m., in the Academic Affairs Conference Room.

- A. The February 7, 2002 minutes were approved via e-mail.**
- B. CULTURAL DIVERSITY AND WRITING INTENSIVE SUBMISSIONS:**

Writing Intensive:

None

Culture Diversity:

None.

- C. OLD BUSINESS:WI Cleanup (no action required):**
none

CD Cleanup (no action required):

ENG 251 - Introduction to Literature: American Literature (Ron Kurtenbach)

*****Department will resubmit course for approval.**

D. NEW BUSINESS:

1. General Studies Governance Policy:

Dr. Wozniak and Dr. Roark have met and discussed a proposed General Studies Governance Policy. Dr. Wozniak would like the Council to review the proposed policy and make formal comments that he will communicate to Dr. Roark. The proposed policy is as follows:

Synopsis

Proposed General Studies Governance Policy (3/2002)

Based on Governance Document of 5/20/1993

I. General Studies Council

A. Voting Members

- Terms begin at the end of spring semester (After last spring semester meeting of the GSC)**
- Nominees should make provisions in their schedules to be able to attend Council Meetings, which are typically scheduled for**

3:30 pm on the first Thursdays of the months during the academic year.

- **Three tenured faculty members (from different departments) from each College**
 - **Nomination process determined by the individual Colleges**
 - **Three-year staggered terms**
 - **Faculty members may succeed themselves only once**
 - **Initially (in 2002) six nominees from each College, three from each selected by SVCAA**
 - **After first selection, two nominees from each College, selection made by SVCAA**

- **One tenured faculty member from the Library**
 - **Nomination process determined by the Library**
 - **Three-year term**
 - **Faculty members may succeed themselves only once**
 - **Two nominees from the Library, selection made by SVCAA**

- **Two junior or senior students from different Colleges**
 - **Rotated among the four Colleges as determined by the SVCAA**
 - **Nominated by Student Senate, two per position, selection made by the SVCAA**
 - **One-year term**

B.

C. Non-voting Members

- **All Ex Officio Members**
 - **Director of General Studies (Chair of GSC)**
 - **Registrar or representative of the Registrar's Office**

- Director of Assessment or representative of the Assessment Office

D.

E. Committee Operations

1. Agenda to be published via e-mail one week in advance of the meeting
2. Quorum is defined as 2/3 of the voting members (10 voting members)
3. Voting procedures
 - i. Action may be approved by a simple majority of the voting members in attendance
 - ii. Tie votes result in the failure of the motion or action
4. Roberts Rules of Order

II.

2. Listed below are some concerns and comments the General Studies Council members had in response to the proposed policy.
3. Marta Moorman stated her concern about the faculty members needing to be tenured. Moorman noted that not all departments have many tenured faculty and it may not be possible to get the representation from such a small pool. She suggested changing it to tenure-track faculty.
4. Don Envick has concerns about expanding the voting privileges to the faculty member representing the Library and two students. Envick is concerned about this decreasing the voting power of the Colleges. Envick stated if two Colleges aren't in favor of a particular proposal, then it probably shouldn't be passed. However, with the proposed voting privileges for the students and the Library, it will be possible approval will be granted with two Colleges voting against it. Envick stated he would like to see the voting privileges removed from the Library representative and the students.
5. Randall Heckman stated his concern about the Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs selecting the Council members from the nominees from the Colleges. Heckman suggested the Colleges elect their representatives.
6. Sandy Cook-Fong suggested that the students should get to vote, but their vote will not count, following the Board of Regents model.

7. John Lillis proposed having the 15 voting members vote with a quorum being 2/3 of the voting members. However, an action should require votes from members of three different colleges to pass.
8. Peg Camp suggested removing the voting privileges from the students, but allow the librarian to vote.
9. Wozniak will forward these concerns to Dr. Roark.

E.

F. MISCELLANEOUS:

1. General Studies Forms:

General Studies Catalog Change (regarding the Cultural Diversity descriptions and General Studies Cultural Diversity offerings in the 2002-2004 undergraduate catalog): After a brief discussion, the following changes were made.

Under the General Studies Objectives, item number four will read:

4. an understanding of the experiences and values of groups and cultures which have been historically under represented.

In addition, the Writing Intensive and Cultural Diversity descriptions have been moved under Academic Information, Institutional Requirements. The Cultural Diversity section now reads:

Students are required to complete six hours of coursework which are designed to enhance an understanding of cultural diversity. The purpose of the Cultural Diversity requirement is to introduce students to non-Western cultures (such as those of Africa, Asia, and Latin America) and to give voice to traditionally underrepresented groups in America and Europe.

G. Adjournment:

***The meeting was adjourned at 4:30.

H. NEXT MEETING:

The next General Studies meeting will be April 11, 2002 at 3:30 p.m., in the Academic Affairs Conference Room, Founders Hall, Room 2122.