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University of Nebraska at Kearney General Studies Council

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GENERAL STUDIES COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting: November 5, 1998

PRESENT: Dave Anderson, Charlie Bicak, Peg Camp, Jeanne Cutler, Don Envick, Jim German, Connie Hansen, Allan Jenkins, Dick Jussel, Sonja Kropp, John Lillis, Clint Ludeman, Kim Schipporeit, Marguerite Tassi

ABSENT: Mary Daake

VISITORS: Jim Roark, Herbert Craig, John Dinsmore, Anita Hart

Chair, Allan Jenkins, called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m., in the Academic Affairs Conference Room.

*****Charlie Bicak (Envick) moved to move the visitors to the top of the agenda. Motion carried.**

- A. The October 1, 1998 minutes were approved via e-mail.**
- B. CULTURAL DIVERSITY AND WRITING INTENSIVE SUBMISSIONS: Jenkins recommended the following courses be approved by the Council:**
 - 1. WI Designation:**
 - **ELED 463 - Home, School Community Relations (B. Flaherty)**
 - **ENG 234 - Reading and Writing About Literature (B. Emrys)**
 - **ITEC 490 - Industrial Distribution Seminar (J. Miller)**
 - **JMC 409 - Public Relations Strategies (D. Grubbs)**
 - **SPCH 4012 - Power (W. Jurma)**
 - **THEA 499 - Senior Project (J. Green)**

- 2. CD and WI Designation:**
 - **SPCH 401 - Native American Discourse (M. Mason)**

*****Clint Ludeman (Envick) moved to approve the above recommendations. Motion carried.**

C.

D. NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Discuss GS 300 Level Courses - Jim Roark:**

Jim Roark, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, discussed with the Council having some 300 level courses as general studies courses. Roark discussed four technical reasons a 300 level course should be designated as a general studies course. The four reasons are as follows:

 - **Help define the University relationship with Community Colleges**

- Distribution of student credit hours by shifting some students into upper division courses
- Help students meet 300/400 level institutional requirements
- Better match with student's ability

Jenkins suggested forming a committee to work out some of the details.

2. Discuss Special WI Requirements in Modern Languages and Art - Herbert Craig, Anita Hart, John Dinsmore:

Herbert Craig, Modern Languages, discussed with the Council the WI guidelines for courses conducted in languages other than English. Craig stated that when students write in their second or third language, it requires more time and effort than when they write in their first language. It takes the student longer to compose a text and the check for the correct grammar, spelling, organization, and style.

Craig requested that the total number of words for a WI courses be reduced from 5000 to 4000 for French, German, and Spanish courses.

The Council discussed this issue and suggested Modern Languages put together a proposal and submit it to the Council for a formal decision at the December GS meeting.

John Dinsmore, Art, proposed an alternative for satisfying the WI requirement by acknowledging linguistic and aesthetic literacy for the Departments of Music & Dance, and Art & Art History. The Department of Art & Art History is proposing the majors in art be permitted to count the successful completion of ART 499, Senior Exhibition, as three of their twelve required hours of WI courses.

The students in ART 499, Senior Exhibition, are required to exhibit proficiency in both linguistic and aesthetic literacy. Therefore, the students in ART 499, would receive WI credit by expressing themselves in art rather than words.

After considerable discussion by the Council, Jenkins will inform Dinsmore that the Council is not inclined to approve this type of course for WI designation at this time.

3. Assessing General Education Questionnaire:

Jenkins distributed the Assessing General Education Questionnaire to the voting council members. The Council was directed to answer the eighteen questions and bring the questionnaire to the GS meeting in December for review.

E. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Update on Requirement to Force Students to Take ENG 101 and ENG 102 Prior to Jr. Status - Kim Schipporeit:

Academic Affairs decided not to make ENG 101 and 102 a requirement prior to the student's junior year. Advisors are recommended to encourage students to take the courses early in their college career.

2. Consider GS Course Submission Procedure:

Jim German (Envick) moved to approve the procedure for submitting courses for consideration as new General Studies courses. Motion carried.

The document is as follows:

SUBMISSION OF COURSES FOR CONSIDERATION AS NEW GENERAL STUDIES COURSES

The General Studies Program must respond to changing circumstances yet maintain sufficient stability that students may complete the program without undue confusion. To accommodate change, the General Studies Council will consider the submission of new courses under the following circumstances.

0. The course must be an active UNK offering.
1. The department must provide a written explicit description of the course detailing how it meets the established General Studies criteria at both the program and perspective level. The proposal must include the following:
 - Evidence that student objectives are consistent with program and perspective criteria
 - Description of the teaching strategies employed
 - Plan for assessment of student outcomes compatible with the criteria
 - Plan for assessment of the course's achievement of the criteria
2. The submission must include evidence of support from:
 1. The Department
 2. The College Academic Affairs/Educational Policy Committee
 3. The Dean's Office
3. The Chair of the submitting department must meet with their college representatives on the General Studies Council, and the proposal should come forward only with the support of these representatives.
4. Timing of submissions must be compatible with the printing of the UNK Undergraduate Catalog.
 1. The Council will consider submissions during the Spring semester proceeding the publication year of the Undergraduate Catalog.
 2. Final action by the General Studies Council will be no later than September following the open submission period.

3. **Update on Language and Communication Review:**
Information will be coming soon.
4. **Update on AD Hoc Capstone Course Committee:**
The committee met, Rick Miller is developing a model capstone course for further discussion.

F. MISCELLANEOUS:

*****Clint Ludeman (German) moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:55.**

G. NEXT MEETING:

The next General Studies meeting is scheduled for December 3, 1998, at 3:30 p.m., in the Academic Affairs Conference Room, Founders Hall, Room 2122.