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4-4-1996

April 1996 General Studies Council Minutes

University of Nebraska at Kearney General Studies Council

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University of Nebraska at Kearney General Studies Council, "April 1996 General Studies Council Minutes" (1996). *General Education Council*. 261.

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GENERAL STUDIES COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting: April 4, 1996

Present: Dave Anderson, Charlie Bicak, Peg Camp, Herbert Craig, Mark Eifler, Allan Jenkins, Don Lackey, Jim Miller, Glen Powell, Kim Schipporeit, Judy Willett

ABSENT: Jeanne Cutler, Dick Jussel, Lee Snyder, Katrena Feauto, Joe Jeanette, Kristin Mack, Cale Reeves

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

A. Jim Miller (Powell) moved to approve the minutes of the March 7, 1996 meeting. The minutes were approved.

B. OLD BUSINESS:

- 1. Discuss Suggested Changes in CD Application Process:
(See Attached Copy)**

Mark Eifler discussed the changes that the CD Subcommittee made to the proposed CD guidelines. The subcommittee added a note listing Africa, Asia, and Latin America as examples of non-western cultures. Gender was added to the criteria for Culture Diversity, it now reads ...issues of race, ethnicity, or gender groups.

Faculty members should review their application with either the Cultural Diversity Subcommittee Chair or with their college representative on the Cultural Diversity Subcommittee before submitting their course application. Following approval, the instructor must send a copy of the syllabus to the Cultural Diversity Subcommittee Chair before the end of the first week of class each time the course is offered. These syllabi are used for monitoring purposes; they do not constitute a re-application.

The Subcommittee made one change to the application for a CD course designation. The brief description of a course was changed to a catalog description of a course.

Herbert Craig encourages departments to re-write their course descriptions if they are always being taught as CD to reflect this, that way they won't be changing the course from what they submitted in the past.

There was discussion on how the students would know the difference between a CD course and a non-CD course. Jim Miller had concerns on how a student would know what the course description was. If one is and one isn't, does the student have to wait until they get to class to find out? Jenkins hopes that the Council can help the advisors be more up-to-date and the advisors could pass that on to the students. Miller stated that there are course descriptions on the Internet, but it is the old catalog. Jenkins suggested that a section be added to the UNK Homepage so new information could be rapidly transmitted.

*****Jim Miller (Powell) moved to approve the documents with the new changes. Motion carried.**

Charlie Bicak was concerned about examining a syllabus each time the course is being offered, it may create unnecessary paper work. Mark Eifler stated that submitting a syllabus would ensure that an instructor following the CD requirements for teaching the course. It would not be in place of an evaluation. Instructors have the flexibility to change the course as long as it meets the CD

requirements in general. The question of how often does the Council want to review the syllabus was raised. The review process needs to be discussed.

2. Update on Review Criteria for Various "Perspectives":

Jenkins hasn't received any new criteria as to date. The Council has three: History, Psychology, and English.

3. Chair Report on Faculty Senate Comments Concerning 300 Level Courses:

The Chair attended the Faculty Senate meeting on March 7, 1996. Jenkins asked Faculty Senate for guidance concerning 300/400 numbered courses in the General Studies curriculum. The Senate moved that any course designated as senior level instruction (300/400) shall be ineligible for inclusion in the General Studies Program. Jenkins was in favor of more flexibility whereas the Senate voted for more restriction.

Dave Anderson suggested the Council establish a policy statement for 300/400 level courses. Jenkins asked for volunteers to draft an initial response, Charlie Bicak volunteered as well as Anderson.

C.

D. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Writing Intensive Subcommittee:

Chair, Charlie Bicak, distributed a memorandum with the following recommendations. Bicak recommended the following be approved by the Council.

1. BIOL 315 - Human Ecology (Doug Lund)
2. *PSY 493 - Readings (Wozniak, Briner, Benz, Miller, Rycek, Mosig, and Byrd)
3. *PSY 499 - Research (Same as Above)
*Approval pending clarification of the drafting & editing component of the course.

***Charlie Bicak (Powell) moved to approve the above recommendations. Motion carried.

2. Cultural Diversity Subcommittee:

Chair, Mark Eifler, discussed two courses with the Council. The courses are as follows:

1. *HIST 212 - Non-Western World (Pradeep Barua)
2. **VOED 434 - Instruction to Students with Special Needs (Elsie Cafferty)
*This course has already been approved for CD, however, this instructor needs to be approved. On the other hand, according to the new CD approval procedure, instructors need not be approved.
**The Subcommittee noted more information is needed on the syllabus before the course is approved.

Considerable discussion occurred regarding the new procedure for approving CD courses. There was some confusion about the new procedure eliminating the instructors being approved. Mark Eifler

explained that with the new process, no instructor will be required to be approved. However, several council members stated that would not always be the case.

*****Don Lackey (Bicak) moved that the Council rescind the previously approved criteria and send it back to the Subcommittee to be clarified and cleaned up. Motion carried (5-2).**

E.

F. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discuss April 8th CD Recruitment Effort:

Jenkins stated that this was set up to target courses that are CD in nature. Also, it should help work out some details, answer questions, and speed up the process. If Council members have some free time and would like to stop by it would be appreciated. Also, Council members were asked to do some recruiting in their own departments as well. The recruitment effort will be held April 8, from 1:00 to 4:00, in the Library Jennings Room.

2. Announce Meeting with Tonya Huber on April 11th:

College of Education has arranged for Tonya Huber, a consultant from Wichita State, to meet with the Council to review multi-cultural criteria. The consultant will be on campus April 11, from 3:30-4:30, in the Educational Center Room 110. If possible, the Chair encourages the Council to attend.

3. Other:

a. Cultural Diversity/Writing Intensive Courses:

A complete listing of CD/WI courses was handed out to Council members for them to review and note any changes or errors. If changes need to be made, Council members should let Kristi Milks know.

b. Clarification of CD/WI Course Requirements:

Kim Schipporeit and the Chair generated a handout that should assist academic advisors clarify the basic CD/WI requirements.

4.

G.

H. NEXT MEETING:

Jenkins adjourned the meeting at 4:45 p.m., reminding the Council that the next meeting is scheduled for May 2, 1996, at 3:30, in the Ockinga Conference Room.