11-2-2009

CWU General Education Committee Minutes - 11/02/09

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Recommended Citation
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Central Washington University  
General Education Committee  
November 2, 2009  
Minutes

Present: John Alsoszatai-Petheo, Gregory brown, Maya Chachava, Bobby Cummings, Duane Dowd, Aaron Montgomery, Sharon Rosell, Megan Hammond, Tracy Pellett, Scott Carlton and Sheryl Grunden.

Absent: Cynthia Coe

Guests: None

Meeting was convened at 2:04 p.m.

Changes to the Agenda - None

John AP moved to approve the minutes for October 19, 2009 as read. Greg seconded and motion was approved.

Announcements – The next General Education forum will be next week, Tuesday, November 10 at 3:00 in the SURC.

MATH 101 prerequisites – Aaron brought a concern about MATH 101. Central accepts MATH 101, but other universities do not always accept it. This is causing a problem through the Cornerstone program. It was suggested that the university put a disclaimer next to MATH 101 that it may not be accepted by all universities. Tracy indicated he would talk to Kevin about the Cornerstone course.

Law & Justice proposal – Law & Justice would like to propose a course for General Education, but are concerned about being turned down. They have requested a copy of a successful proposal. Aaron is talking to History about using their paperwork as a sample. This would be a new course at the 100 level in Perspectives of US Cultures.

General Education proposal – Aaron reported that the forums seem to be going around in circles. Currently the suggested proposal would include three writing course (W), three quantitative reasoning courses (Q) and two diversity awareness courses (D). It has been suggested that faculty should take development workshops prior to teaching a course with a letter designation. The requirement for a writing (W) course would be bumped up to 10 pages. The interdisciplinary course will also have a writing component that will in effect be a fourth (W). It was suggested that the breadth requirements be actual credits rather than courses. Scott indicated that credits is much more difficult for students and advising. The break down is proposed at 3 natural science, 3 behavioral science, 2 humanities and 1 aesthetic experience. All courses would be 4-5 credits. It is proposed that the interdisciplinary courses be a 194 or 294 course. 194 would be a freshman oriented linked course and 294 would
sort of be a capstone course for general education. These courses would also satisfy a course within one of the breadth areas in addition. The 294 course could have a prerequisite of completion of their essential skills and one course each of in natural sciences, humanities and behavioral and social sciences. Tracy cautioned having a policy that caps courses. It would be hard pressed to get approved administration. An example of a linked course would be two professors meet the entire class together every day or both professors meet with the students for 20 days and then each professor takes 20 days. The course would need to produce an artifact that would be kept for assessment. These courses need to be sustainable and offered on a regular basis. Also need to look at resources for professional development for faculty. The stewardship component was not included in this proposal based on feedback from the Executive Committee and the forums.

Petitions/appeals (if any) – None

Meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Next General Education Forum, November 10 SURC 140 3-5
Next meeting November 16, 2009 Barge 410