

GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES/NOTES
14 SEPTEMBER 2010
(Matt O'Mansky)

NOTE: For more detail see Tod's PowerPoint presentation from the meeting

TASKS FOR 2010-2011

1. Credit for veterans
2. Assessment of Gen Ed
3. Revision of Gen Ed model

1. Credit for veterans:

- OBOR is interested in this issue and had a meeting about it in August
- our withdrawn proposal last spring was broader than what is employed elsewhere in the state
- right now, it's up in the air – we (GEC) will get something from the Veterans' Committee late

2. Gen Ed Assessment

- looking into potential for creating a repository for writing to use in Gen Ed assessment (a "poor man's E-portfolio")
- also a way to ensure that students are writing in their majors
- for evaluation of writing, the Provost has said he will support this model financially in the form of some sort of stipend for the evaluators
- Some policy/mechanism needed to enforce student submission
- Proposed sample of 300 students/year; 4 papers from ENGL 1551, 2 from major, and capstone
- Who evaluates: Ideally English comp instructors
- What we are assessing: (1) Progress in writing and (2) Overall assessment of writing quality
- Hoping to evaluate critical thinking, too (we'll start with the writing as that is easier to assess and the HLC is after us...)

- Concern** raised: IRB required for collection of these student documents?
-(Sharon): probably not an issue; can explain it to class and put a form on file

- Concern** raised (by Brian): Issue of anonymity/student privacy
-(Tod): can't be completely anonymous because we need to be able to pull samples based on major
-(Brian): what if plagiarism is discovered? What do we do?
-Some sort of policy needed on this: Will not be used to enforce Honor Code, etc.

- Concern** raised: What of group papers and projects? In some majors capstone projects are group, not individual

3. Revision of Gen Ed

- Tod's suggestion: Set goal to submit to Academic Senate this year with sufficient time for Senate to act, for reactions from departments and deans, etc.
- Therefore: proposal needed in Dec. or Jan.

- Is it feasible in this timeframe? How often do we need to meet? Perhaps meet in subcommittees between meetings.
- From a statewide comparison: Personal and Social Responsibility is unique to YSU
- Most schools have a much stronger diversity component than does YSU
- Form subcommittees to work on the various categories
- Do we follow our “new” model from last year?

-General concerns:

- How do we assess general education within the categories? Do we make the categories smaller/more narrow? Of so, this will create problems with transfers.
- How do we do Learning Outcomes with the new model? Together? (Fewer LOs will be easier to assess.)
- How do we make sure our students are getting a good, broad education?
- How to assess it?
- How do we pass the Senate and appease all of the different departments and concerned parties?
- Where does health/wellness fit in the new model? Ethics?

NEXT MEETING: Tues. 9/21 2:30 PM