

General Education Council
Meeting Minutes
October 13, 2021

1. The first meeting for Fall Semester 2021 for the General Education Council was held on Wednesday, October 21, 2020, at 3:00 pm in R318 and via Zoom with the chair of the council being present.
2. The meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm and a quorum was present.
3. Attendance:

R318:

- Brett Elliott
- Rolando Diaz
- Erica Corbett
- Charles Matthews
- Kathleen Hardgrove
- Viviana Limon

Zoom:

- Glenn Melancon
- Steve McKim
- Todd Williams
- Ying Lin
- Stan Alluisi
- Jamie Knapp
- Hal Poovey
- Linda Bressler
- Josie Frazier
- Sandra Thomas

4. Approval of minutes from the October 21, 2020 meeting: a motion was made by Glenn Melancon and seconded by Charles Matthews. The motion to approve the minutes with the following members added to the “attending” list passed unanimously.

Ying C Lin

Charles Matthews

Glenn Melancon

Michael Scheuerman

Rolando Diaz

James Knapp

Todd Williams

Steve McKim

Erica Corbett

Linda Bressler

Brett Elliott

Sandra Thomas

5. Old Business

- a. Brief synopsis of the 2021 ETS Proficiency Profile results: Even though Brett expected our scores on the ETS to drop a little this year due to the pandemic, they went up slightly. Meanwhile, during the same time period, the national average dropped 4 points. In addition, students who took the majority of their Gen Ed online underperformed compared to those who took the majority face-to-face. However, the difference was due to their starting abilities. Their ACT scores were 3 points lower on average.

6. New Business

- a. Proposal to add Art 3503 – Art in the Elementary Classroom to the Gen Ed Program was submitted by Amy Gantt. Pros/cons of doing this were discussed
 - i. Need Amy Gantt to come speak to us about why she wants to add this course. Brett said she was invited. Erica Corbett made a motion to table the proposal until Amy Gantt could attend or Kathleen Hardgrove has a better understanding. After additional discussion; however, Erica withdrew her motion to table.
 - ii. Council felt the course did not meet the guidelines of a Gen Ed class. This is an education class and it could be frustrating for a student who doesn't have a background in education classes.
 - iii. Motion was made by Charles Matthews and seconded by Jamie Knapp in favor of denying the proposal. Eleven were in favor of denying.
 - b. Discussion of the foreign language requirement (or lack thereof) in the Gen Ed Program. Should it be changed?
 - i. Section 4 of the Gen Ed requirements is Humanities. Subcategory 3 is the foreign language component. Current requirement is 0-3 hours, which allows students to not take a foreign language. Glenn Melancon says it was intended to remain an option. Rolando wants it to be a requirement.
 - ii. Several suggestions and faults with this request were made:
 1. Keep Humanities at 9 hours but require 3 hours of a foreign language: Glenn Melancon says to change to 3-3-3 will cause a domino effect of problems. Other institutions aren't requiring it.
 2. Raise Humanities to 12 hours: Charles Matthews says that can extend the time it takes to graduate for many majors (especially Education).
 - iii. Formal motion to change Language to 3 hours instead of 0-3 hours was made by Rolando Diaz and seconded by Kathleen Hardgrove. After continued discussion with the same issues as mentioned above being cited, a motion to table was made by Charles Matthews and seconded by Linda Bressler. Twelve were in favor of tabling the motion.
 - c. Charges:
 - i. Jamie Knapp: Do sister institutions have a foreign language requirement?
 - ii. Glenn Melancon: What effect would the changes to the Humanities/Foreign language hours have on enrollment?
 - iii. Glenn Melancon: How are our sister institutions assessing their Gen Ed program?
7. A motion to adjourn was made by Jamie Knapp and seconded by Kathleen Hardgrove at 4:09.