

**General Education Council
Minutes – November 11, 2010**

Call to Order: 1:20pm.

Members Present: Bryon Clark (chair), Brett Elliott, Lawrence Silver, Dick Hackett, Breeanna Robberson, Kay Daigle, Mark Spencer, Halet Poovey, Robert McFadden, John Van Bebber, Steve McKim, and Sharon Morrison.

Approval of Minutes: Dick Hackett made a motion that the minutes from the April meeting be approved as written. The motion was seconded by Robert McFadden and passed unanimously.

Introductions: Because there were new members on the committee, everyone introduced themselves.

Old Business: Dr. Clark reported that he talked to Theresa Hrcir about the tabled motion from the April meeting regarding the Personal Finance course. The motion will remain tabled until the return of John Topuz.

Also at the April meeting, Mark Spencer had requested that the council consider changing the foreign language requirement from 0-3 hours to 3 hours. After reconsideration he has withdrawn that request. Instead, because of the logistics involved, the EHL department will approach individual departments and programs about possible changes to their requirements.

English, Humanities and Languages: The council then entertained two proposals from the EHL department.

The first was to replace the course HUM 2453: Philosophy of Life with the course Phil 2223: Ethics in the general education requirements.

Dick Hackett made a motion to approve the proposal and it was seconded by Halet Poovey. After a brief discussion, the motion passed unanimously with 11 present members voting “yes” as well as 4 absent members voting “yes” via email.

The second proposal from the EHL department was for the new course ASL 1113: Introduction to American Sign Language to be added as an option under the foreign language requirements in the general education requirements.

Dick Hackett made a motion to approve the proposal and it was seconded by Brett Elliott. After some discussion, the proposal passed with a vote of 13 in favor (including 3 email votes), 1 opposed and 1 abstaining.

New Business: The Biology Department has made a request that we revisit the way our midlevel assessment tests are administered. Dr. Clark said we should be thinking about this before our next meeting.

Dr. Clark said it would behoove us to consider occasionally recertifying our general education courses. He just returned from Higher Learning Commission training, and although they don't currently require such recertification, they seem to be moving in that direction. Most universities that do this, recertify their courses every 3-6 years. So this is another item that we should be thinking about for the future.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00pm- bme