

General Education Council
Minutes of Meeting
9 February 2004

Council Members Present: Bryon Clark (chair), Jim Cunningham, Jan Dill, Sara Bland, Sarah Boatner, Steven Emgee, Shannon McCraw, John Mischo, Jack Ousey, Cherrie Wilmoth, Steve McKim, Jamie Knapp, Chip Weiner, Richard Hackett, Linda Kallam, Dan Benco, and Brad Ludrick

Meeting called to order at 2:05 pm

Welcome and introductions.

Approval of minutes from 17 November 2003 and 26 January 2005 meetings

There was a general discussion concerning the University Studies (general education) program at Southeast Missouri State University and Southwest Missouri State University. The Chair indicated the VP Snowden was familiar with both programs and liked the organizational model of each. If resources are available in the future, SOSU may adopt a similar organization model. The Chair indicated that VP Snowden, Director of Assessment Weiner, AVP McMillan, and Director of General Education Clark may visit these universities to discuss their programs with faculty and administrators later this semester or early in the fall semester.

There was a general discussion concerning problems associated with assessing the current goals and objectives of general education. It was suggested that the goals and/or objectives need to be revised such that their assessment would be facilitated

Council members indicated that outcomes and objectives of general education were not being assessed in courses offered by their departments. Members revealed that some assessment occurred in general education courses if they served as both a general education course and a course in a major program; however, the assessment was related to program assessment in the major and not general education. Several courses have been modified based on assessment data, but modifications related to achieving goals/objectives of major and not general education.

The general consensus of the Council was that SOSU does a better job of program assessment for majors than general education; however, most felt that departments have not been requested/charged with assessment of general education until recently (within last year).

Council members thought that other schools in Oklahoma had goals/objectives that may be easier to assess and we should consider revising our goals/objectives. The Chair concurred with revising the goals/objectives but related that whatever is done, the OSRHE requirements must be met.

The Chair initiated discussion concerning electronic portfolios for general education (idea based on presentation at NCA annual meeting attended by Chair). One way to facilitate assessment is via use of technology; the Chair discussed the possibility/feasibility of using an electronic General Education Course Inventory Form as part of the electronic portfolio with AVP Haycock. Steve McKim moved and Brad Ludrick seconded the motion that the Chair and AVP Haycock pursue development of the electronic portfolio. After discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Next meeting will be held at 2:30 pm on 22 March 2004 in BS 205.

Adjourned at 3:35 pm