

Faculty Senate Ad Hoc Committee on General Education

Dec. 9, 2009

MINUTES

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1. PURPOSE/HISTORY

*CHARGE: Work in partnership with Asst. Provost to develop timeline and process for review of General Education curriculum requested by administration.*

**CLAPP: Reviewed how and why the committee came into being**

**MAYFIELD/BAINS: Questions about the nature of the committee and its relationship with the Office of the Provost. Bains wondered if Gen Ed was a function of Faculty Senate or individual schools.**

**GENERAL DISCUSSION: relationship of Gen-Ed Review to SACS reporting requirements, our understanding of the goals of the Office of the Provost for the Gen-Ed Review.**

**CONSENSUS: The Faculty needs to maintain oversight of its curriculum. The University-wide curriculum of Gen Ed**

**QUESTIONS:**

1. Are there perceived problems with Gen Ed?
2. Did SACS criticize Gen-Ed?
3. Did SACS criticize TLA?
4. Is the Gen-Ed Review responding to questions raised by SACS?
5. Is the Gen-Ed Review responding to questions raised by SACS about TLA?

**PROPOSAL (Mayfield): Because the Ad Hoc Committee will draft the plan for the Gen Ed Review, the Faculty Senate should be asked to extend the charge of the Ad Hoc Committee to oversee the implementation of that plan for the Gen Ed Review so that it need not create a new committee with time lost for selection and getting members up to speed. UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED. (CLAPP: committee members may step down and be replaced by an elected representative if the commitment to the Ad Hoc committee is more burdensome than initially advertised)**

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2. TIMELINE: *How long should this review take?*

- YEAR 1 (and YEAR 2?)
  - FINAL YEAR: *Samford approval processes*
    1. School Curriculum Committees: mid-August (= start of fall semester)
    2. University Curriculum Committee [Kristie Chandler]: October 1
    3. Catalog Revision [Jane Leask, Nancy Miller]: mid-February (= start of spring semester)
  - QUESTION 1: *Can we approve a final year for School and University Curriculum Committees along with Catalog Revision?* **COMMITTEE APPROVED RESERVING THE FINAL YEAR FOR OFFICIAL APPROVAL PROCESSES**
  - QUESTION 2: *Do we at this early stage have a preference for a 1 or 2 year review?* **NO DISCUSSION**
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3. VOICES: *Who needs to be heard in this review? How can these voices be heard?*

**LIMITED DISCUSSION: Faculty of schools need to voice their opinions. Town-hall style meetings were**

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4. STAGES: *What is a broad outline of the steps for the review?*

- Current Curriculum:
- Comparable Curricula
- Goals/Assessable Outcomes
- Proposals for Improvements
- Decisions on Improvements

1. Committee (elected by Faculty)

2. Meet with Office of Provost: discuss hopes, goals, issues with SACS and TLA

3. Gather Information

- What is Gen Ed?
- Goals (MAYFIELD: differentiate BA/BS, Beers: constraints of nursing curriculum)
- History (Archives, Institutional Memory)
- Current Status (Current Courses, Use with Schools and Depts, Enrollment Data)
- Assessment (Data, Feedback)

4. Decision

5. Codify Process (for managing Gen-Ed and future reviews)

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5. BUSINESS: *How do we proceed?*

- January Meetings? TUES. JAN 12 and JAN. 19 (Listen to Institutional Memory, Talk to Office of Provost). VANN and FOURNIER return Jan 10. BAINS out of town until later Jan.
- Working Groups? **NO DISCUSSION**

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6. MEMBERSHIP: *Shall we vote to include these non-voting members?* **NO DISCUSSION**

1. Rosemary Fisk, Associate Dean of A&S (requested by Dean Chapman)(
2. Pharmacy representative (requested by a Pharmacy faculty member)
3. Education/Professional Studies second representative (requested by Associate Dean Chuck Sands)
4. Law representative (Mike Floyd says a willing volunteer is available)

**ACTION ITEMS:**

1. Clapp presents preliminary work of Ad Hoc to Asst. Provost
2. Clapp requests discussion with Office of Provost and Ad Hoc Gen Ed
3. Ad Hoc reconvenes Jan. 12 and 19 (History of Gen Ed, Discussion with Office of the Provost)