

**GENERAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL
MINUTES
September 14, 2015
101 Whitehurst**

Present: Kristen Baum, Karen Flaherty, Sarah Gordon, Shelia Kennison, Amy Martindale, Nick Materer, Bridget Miller, Bill Ryan, and Pamela Fry.

1. Updates on Improvements to the General Education Database – Pamela Fry

Dr. Fry noted that the intention is to make improvements to the General Education Database; however, with the implementation of Banner, this initiative will have to wait. OSU should be able to use CourseLeaf to incorporate the general education processes and record keeping.

2. New General Education Designation Requests:

AMST 3950 – Special Topics in American Studies, requests the “D” designation, one-time only, effective Spring 2016.

Members approved the “D” designations, one-time only, effective Spring 2016.

GEOG 4600 – Environmental and Heritage of Cuba, requests the “S” designations, one-time only, effective Spring 2016. Course currently carries the “I” designation.

Members approved the “S” designation, one-time only, effective Spring 2016, contingent upon receiving evidence that the students have the opportunity to received feedback on writing assignments.

GEOG 4053 – Biogeography, the department requests deletion of the “N” designation, effective Fall 2016.

Members approved the deletion of the “N” designation, effective Fall 2016.

3. General Education Five Year Review of the “S” Designations:

SOC 4433 – Environmental Sociology, requests continuation of the “S” designation, effective Spring 2016.

Members approved continuation of the “S” designation, effective Spring 2016.

SOC 4653 – Gender and the Middle East, requests continuation of the “S and I” designations, effective Spring 2016.

Members approved continuation of the “S and I” designations, effective Spring 2016.

4. Tabled General Education Five Year Review of the “S” Designations:

HONR 3033 – Contemporary Cultures of the Nonwestern World, requests continuation of the “S and I” designations, effective Fall 2015.

2/2/15 - Members tabled as the course does not appear to meet the writing requirement. The writing assignment must consist of 10 pages of original written work with feedback.

Upper division courses - outside of class writing assignments that give students the opportunity to incorporate feedback in subsequent writing assignments (by revising and resubmitting one assignment or submitting more than one assignment). Minimum of 10 pages of writing assignments during semester.

9/14/15 - Members approved continuation of the “S” designation, effective Spring 2016.

POLS 3193 – Politics of Latin America, requests continuation of the “S and I” designations, effective Fall 2015.

2/2/15 - Members tabled pending clarification of the writing assignments. It doesn’t appear from the syllabus that the course meets the writing requirement.

Upper division courses - outside of class writing assignments that give students the opportunity to incorporate feedback in subsequent writing assignments (by revising and resubmitting one assignment or submitting more than one assignment). Minimum of 10 pages of writing assignments during semester.

9/14/15 - Members approved continuation of the “S and I” designations, effective Spring 2016.

PSYC 2743 – Social Psychology, requests continuation of the “S” designation, effective Fall 2015.

2/2/15 - Members tabled pending clarification of writing assignment.

Lower division courses - outside of class writing assignments appropriate to the discipline that are graded with feedback on writing. Minimum of 5 pages of writing assignments during semester.

9/14/15 - Members approved continuation of the “S” designation, effective Spring 2016.

5. “N and L” General Education Designations to be Reviewed Spring 2016 – Pamela Fry

It was noted that the “N” and “L” general education designations will be reviewed Spring 2016.

6. Looking Ahead at General Education at OSU – Pamela Fry

Dr. Fry noted that most of the colleges will be converting to the 30-10 general education curriculum and it will be reflected on the degree sheets. Dr. Fry went on to say that working groups will be created to address the General Education Task Force recommendations two and four. Recommendation two suggests that a coalition of faculty and administration should oversee the learning outcomes, goals, assessment, development, modification, execution, and quality of instruction. Recommendation four suggests developing a systematic approach to equipping faculty to teach general education courses in a way that will help students attain the desired learning outcomes.

7. Higher Learning Commission Site Visit - October 19th & 20th

8. Other

Dr. Fry noted that she attended the state provost meeting at the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and one of the highlights of the meeting was dual or concurrent student enrollment. The Schusterman Foundation is interested in growing this effort. Presently, this encompasses the top 20% of high school students and the intent is to expand this effort. Dr. Fry noted that High Schools are setting aside class times for students to take college courses online at their High School. Perkins sets aside a 3 hour class period for this purpose and in some cases, college instructors will physically go to the High Schools to teach college courses. Members noted that there are instructors interested in teaching these courses but said that technology needs to be improved for this effort. Member also noted that there are copyright issues and there is a lack of available faculty for this effort.

Adjourn: 11:00 a.m.