Board of General Studies Committee
April 21st, 2016
Minutes

Present: Martina Bremer (COS), Robin Love (CoEd), David Parent (COE), Peggy Plato (CASA), Revathi Krishnaswamy (HA), Matthew Spangler (COSS), Stephen Branz (EXO), Melinda Jackson (EXO)

Apologies for Absence: Simon Rodan (COB)

1. Approval of minutes: from April 7, 2016

With one addition/change to then minutes: In the EDAD 160 course, Robin Love requested that the minutes substitute the phrase “hiring issues” for “future educational goals.” The change to the minutes was made in the meeting.

**Action - Approved (7,0,0)**

2. Announcements
   a. From Steve Branz
      - Steve reminded board members whose terms are coming to an end at the end of the spring 2016 semester to either step down or indicate a desire to continue to serve on BOGS to the appropriate college associate dean. This applies to Martina Bremer (COS), Peggy Plato (CASA), and Revathi Krishnaswamy (HA).

   **Steve led discussion on the following issue:** Based on a directive (Coded Memorandum) from the Chancellor’s Office, Basic Skills courses (A1, A2, A3, & B4) for purposes of both admission and graduation, will need only a C- minimum grade (rather than the current "C or Better"). **We MUST honor the C- in Basic Skills for both admissions and graduation. BOGS has a right to comment on related matters but not these CSU level mandates.** -- We do have the right and responsibility to weigh in about other university level requirements that are related: (1) Intensive Math (I recommended that this modification remain "C or Better"), (2) A1 and A2 prereqs for A3 (I recommended changing from C or better to C- or better), (3) WST prereq (I recommended changing from C or better to C- or better), & (4) the 100W prereq (I recommended changing from C or better to C- or better). -- [NOTE that Basic Skill that are degree program requirements within the major MAY remain at "C or Better" but that is a departmental decision, not a BOGS decision. GUP will be recommending that these also change to C- or better. Likewise, if Basic Skills courses are prereqs to major courses with a C or better, GUP recommends that these be changed to C- or better prereqs.]
and responsibility to weigh in about other university level requirements that are related: (1) Intensive Math (I recommended that this modification remain "C or Better"), (2) A1 and A2 prereqs for A3 (I recommended changing from C or better to C- or better), (3) WST prereq (I recommended changing from C or better to C- or better), & (4) the 100W prereq (I recommended changing from C or better to C- or better). Steve led discussion on the following issue: Based on a directive (Coded Memorandum) from the Chancellor’s Office, Basic Skills courses (A1, A2, A3, & B4) for purposes of both admission and graduation, will need only a C-minimum grade (rather than the current "C or Better"). It was resolved that BOGS members would discuss this issue with the appropriate departments in their respective colleges that teach a large number of A1, A2, A3, & B4 courses, and report back at the next BOGS meeting (May 5). At that point (May 5), BOGS may take a vote on whether or not to support the change of minimum grade requirement from C to C-.

- Steve led a discussion about the (temporary) need to permit A1 (currently a prereq for A3 along with A2) to change from a prereq to a coreq for A3. Examples were given for the need for this change. Specific wording was not discussed, but the intent to permit the co-req but continue to strongly recommend A1 as a prereq. BOGS will discuss at the next meeting.

b. From Melinda Jackson
- Melinda reminded the committee that the core competencies conference would be on Friday, April 22.
- Melinda also gave a brief, initial report on the GE survey that was distributed to faculty and students earlier in the semester. The survey received 2256 student responses and 480 faculty responses. The plan is to have the data from the survey available by Friday, April 29.

3. Approval of GE Continuing Certification Letters
a. Currently, there is no letter for RTVF 10. Or, more accurately, there may be a letter for RTVF 10, but it does not appear in the on-line toolbox the committee has been using. Matt Spangler will let Simon know with the intention of getting a letter for the committee to review before the next BOGS meeting.

b. The committee resolved internal inconsistencies in the following course letters:
Comm 10. The committee gave the course a B grade and would like to see the syllabus again by Sept 1, 2016, as the committee feels a number of the course assignments, as currently described in the syllabus, do not adequately satisfy the D1 Area GELOs.

Comm 168A/B. The committee gave the course a B grade and would like to see the syllabus again (by Sept 1, 2016). The committee feels the course assignments, as currently described in the syllabus, do not adequately satisfy the Area V and S GELOS.

HIST 15 A. Found a duplicate letter and deleted it.

Phil 009. The committee requested to see this syllabus again by September 1, 2016.

RTVF 110. In effect, the committee gave the course a B and C grade, requesting that the RTVF department re-submit the syllabus (by September 1, 2016) with revised assignment descriptions that more adequately satisfy the Area S GELOS. The course has also been referred to the Director of Assessment to discuss how future assessment of the course might be done in a more effective manner.

PSYC 191. The course has been referred to the Director of Assessment to discuss how future assessment of the course might be done in a more effective manner, relying less on student grades and more on what percentage of students did or did not meet the GE learning objectives.

BIOL 21. The committee changed the rating from a C to an A. The course seems to meet the GELOs and assessment seems to be satisfactory.

4. Two requests of Simon:
- That we change the date on which programs are requested to re-submit materials to BOGS (B grades) from August 1 to September 1, 2016.

- That Simon refrain from sending out the course continuing certification letters until after the next BOGS meeting (May 5), so that committee members have a chance to identify any other letters with internal contradictions.
5. For our next meeting, BOGS members will review the continuing certification letters that each member was initially assigned with an eye toward internal contradictions in the letters. Our goal is to fix any remaining internal contradictions and send the letters out after the May 5 meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:05 pm