SAN JOSE STATE
UNIVERSITY
Board of General Studies Committee
August 27, 2015
Minutes

Present: Martina Bremer (COS), Stephen Branz (EXO), Robin Love (CoEd), David Parent (COE), Peggy Plato (CASA), Revathi Krishnaswamy (HA), Simon Rodan (COB), Matthew Spangler (COSS)
Absent: None
Apologies: None
Guest: Melinda Jackson (EXO), Jan English-Lueck, Guna Selvaduray (BME)

Start: 2:05 pm

1. Introductions
2. Approval of Minutes

**Action- Approve Meeting Minutes from May 15, 2015:** 4-Yes, 0-No, 3-Abstain

3. Matters Arising
4. GE Pathways Discussion
   a. Multiple initiatives around the Student experience on campus from advising to extra curricular and GE Pathways. Currently Chico State does a similar program, the SJSU system won’t have something as robust.
   b. Plan is to develop a pilot experience through advising via 1 of 3 pathways. Will students find it useful and would faculty find it useful around areas of study, Global Engagement, Sustainability, and Creativity.
      i. Sustainability has quite a few courses identified around campus
      ii. Global Engagement is a bit behind, there are a few courses across campus, but still needs some additional thought behind its development
      iii. Creativity is the one that area that is still a bit behind in development. Mostly because it is not defined as well across campus as the other topics are.
   c. Pathway advising largely done through advising and ENGL 1A.
   d. Structure is that students would take a minimum of 9 GE units as first part of pathway and then 3 units as SJSU studies experiences that would have a division.
      i. Looking at making the more robust pathways culminate into a certificate.
      ii. Looking at how some courses could align in a semester in order to link assignments.
   e. Will these faculty committees work/meet often to ensure that the experience is cohesive? This is hopefully being developed as faculty create these pathway groups.
   f. They anticipate there will be additional examples where they see growth in integrating curriculum that will evolve out of this process development.
   g. Looking at developing PLO’s for each of the pathways.
   h. GE Coordinators are already overburdened, and sometimes GE are taught by adjunct. There will need to be incentives to obtain participation. Hoping the compelling piece is that you get work in an interdisciplinary environment with fellow SJSU faculty.
i. Distribution varies around campus. Some areas offer quite a bit of courses to meet the topic however there are other programs where there isn’t much to choose from [GE courses] to offer as part of the pathway.

j. Discussing what the Articulation look like for these GE pathway to the major.

k. Ideas and decisions are based on what we offer and what we can implement effectively using current systems. Cohorts and Course sizes are things they have been considering.

l. They will add additional areas, once they see how the pilot will go.

5. “Housekeeping”

a. all the links Chair includes in agenda can be found in the BOGS folder.

b. We generally look at the course GE requests, the GE assessment from Program Planning, and the GE guidelines.

c. Program Planning Review overview

i. The review process, the three categories (cover letter template)

ii. Assessment committee will assist in developing a plan to assist departments in approving any courses that are deemed requiring continuing certification due to requiring improvements in assessment. GE Guidelines do not state that the Assessment Coordinators couldn’t review and provide feedback on annual assessment.

iii. Administrative processes, recording and communication

d. WRC reports to BOGS, a determination about who will vote on the 100W GWAR courses.

6. Biomedical engineering A3 waiver - Guna Selvaduray

a. ABET approved programs have historically had the A3 waiver from the Chancellor’s office, BME is a newer program who did not get grandfathered in to the same A3 waiver as the other engineering programs. This would allow BME to have the same allowances as the other engineering programs.

b. The program has identified that they do truly meet the requirements of the area A3 from the work that the students do in the program.

c. Committee members are curious about writing and ensuring it meets the criteria and word count that the GELO’s require.

i. BME expressed they definitely meet the word count criteria ranging from papers related to projects to lab assignments and reports. They also have to look at every project with the ethical stance of “Would I allow this device in myself or my family”

ii. They still have to take a 2nd semester composition, currently ENGL 1B still exists to provide majors like Engineering the writing opportunity.

d. The Engineering programs basically prepare students for 40 years of work, and their technical electives allow them to specialize in specific areas in their field.

e. ENGL 1B (Area C2) will mostly be Engineering majors.
**Action- Approve BME A3 Waiver moving to Chancellor Office: Unanimous- 7-Yes, 0- No, 0-Abstain**

7. Program Planning reviews due this semester: LLD, AFAM, Music, MCOM

8. Other BOGS tasks
   a. Provisional course final approval- ENGR S and V packages, HUM 177A/B
   b. Capped class size check on A3 courses under new GE guidelines

9. Assignment of Reviewers for [COMM 168AB](#)

10. AOB

Adjourn: 4:00pm