**WIU Council on General Education**

**Meeting Minutes**

**October 8, 2015**

**Fall 2015 CGE Members**

Marjorie Allison Dept. of English & Journalism (Humanities/Fine Arts)

Panakkattu Babu Dept. of Physics (Math/Natural Science)

Rumen Dimitrov Dept. of Mathematics (Math/Natural Science)

Krista Bowers Sharpe Library (At-Large)

Kathleen ODonnell-Brown English (Communication Skills)

Erik Brooks Dept. of African-American Studies (Multicultural)

Shavez Rosenthal Student Government Association ( ? ) (Communication Skills)

Kyle Mayborn College of Arts & Sciences (Ex-officio, Dean's Council Representative)

Nancy Parsons Office of the Provost (Ex-officio, Provost's Representative)

Darcy Plymire Dept. of Kinesiology (Human Well-Being)

Jongnam Choi Dept. of Geography (Social Science)

Joanne Sellen Dept. of Educational & Interdisciplinary Studies (At-Large)

Keva Steadman Dept. of Economics & Decision Sciences (Social Science)

Jeannie Woods Dept. of Theatre & Dance (Humanities/Fine Arts)

Michelle Yager Advising Center (Ex-officio, COAA Representative)

David Zanolla Dept. of Communication (Communication Skills)

**Elected Members Present:** Krista Bowers Sharpe, Panakkattu Babu, Erik Brooks, Shavez Rosenthal, Rumen Dimitrov, Michelle Yager, Joanne Sellen, Marjorie Allison, David Zanolla, Darcy Plymire, Keva Steadman, Jeannie Woods, Jongnam Choi

***Elected Members Excused:*** Kathleen ODonnell-Brown,

**Ex-Officio Members Present:** Kyle Mayborn

***Ex-Officio Members Excused/Absent:***

**Guests Present: Aimee Shouse**

**CGE Chair Marjorie Allison called meeting to order at in Horrabin 60 on the Macomb Campus**

**MINUTES, INTRODUCTIONS, AND REPORTS**

Motion to approve minutes made by PK and Jeanie seconded. Approved unanimously

Welcome to Guests:

**Additions to Agenda:**

None

**Announcements:**

Gen Ed assessment was due last Friday but not all are in yet. Nancy wants us to remind all departments to get them in immediately

**REPORTS:**

1. Office of the President—Nancy says SLAC committee discussed assessment of graduate and undergraduate programs. Discussed unique characteristics of Gen Ed assessment at WIU. Need to schedule a meeting of the Gen Ed assessment subcommittee to discuss these issues. Need to discuss what to do to induce faculty and/or departments who are not submitting data in a timely fashion, or at all in some cases. Assessment plans are crucial because curriculum approval depends on assessment plans and data being submitted. Data also need to be used by departments and faculty to improve student learning. HLC says we need to attend the data, e.g., what do they mean and how do we use them to help improve student learning.
2. CAS—none
3. University Advising—none
4. Faculty Senate/Articulation Requests—two humanities articulations have been passed and two more have been sent back for more information

**OLD BUSINESS:**

* Revised assessment plan for Women’s Studies
* Rumen notices a typo misrepresenting the numbers of the goals—they will change those numbers
* PK says the new plan is much improved
* Marjorie wants to ask whether the fact that the specific goals are the same for both courses means that they are not properly emphasizing the uniqueness of each course. To whit, does the goal about identity imply that the literature course is less about literature and more about gender and sexuality?
* Aimee replies that the language of the goal gets at the overarching goal of Women’s Studies, that is the unique goal of highlighting women’s experience of identities through a variety of disciplines, in this case literature
* Marjorie wants to know why the description includes the words “in the arts” that seems to dilute the focus on literature
* Nancy wants to know if there can be some rewording to reflect the difference in focus between studying literature from the vantage of women and studying women’s experience through women
* Marjorie is concerned about the disciplinary boundaries of English and Women’s Studies, respectively
* In short, shouldn’t the assessment goals for WS 280 include some mention of Hispanic women?
* Nancy replies that some departments create a plan for the department that each course fits into instead of creating an assessment plan for each individual course
* Aimee says that WS goals are global, but that when the courses are Humanities and Arts Gen Eds they want to make some mention that the learning outcomes are specific to the category
* The ultimate question is, do we need to explain what sources they will draw from? Or do we need to be more general?
* Joanne suggests they wording be changed to “course content”
* Marjorie calls for comments and questions about the WS 270 proposal
* Marjorie clarifies that the department/program creates three goals, the CGE picks two of those goals, and the department/program then implements those goals
* Aimee shares her rewording of the second goal
* Rumen moved to approve the assessment plan and goals 2 & 5 for 280, seconded by Jeannie
* Motion passes unanimously
* PK moves to approve the assessment plan for 270 and goals 2 &5 with the same changes made to 280, Darcy seconds
* Motion passes unanimously
* Marjorie reopens discussion of links, syllabi, etc. that we want on the CGE page
* Nancy says we need forms and examples of “good” plans—e.g., ones that have been accepted in the past, highlighting the assessment goals, for example. So the point would be to show the best examples and not all accepted courses
* We could contact departments and ask for copies of their more recent Gen Ed proposals that have been accepted.
* We could also list contact people from departments that have submitted successful plans
* Discussion of whether or not departments save their proposals
* Question of where and how to gather exemplars
* Nancy suggests she can bring two years of documents
* Concerns that University 100 and Financial Health could be used as exemplars of Human Wellbeing and that might offend some who see Human Wellbeing as their provenance
* Suggestion made that we avoid examples that might be contentious
* People from different areas need to find some syllabi for their area
* We will have more courses coming for our review, two from Gerontology and three from Kinesiology

**NEW BUSINESS:**

* None

**GOOD OF THE ORDER (**Other Business?)

**Motion:** The meeting was adjourned at 4:24 by Marjorie

CGE will next convene at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 22, 2015

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Darcy C. Plymire (CGE Secretary)