

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA
General Education Council
Minutes of February 1st, 2010

Present: Laura Rusnak, Drew Smith, Sonia Wohlmuth, Roger Boothroyd, Michael Bowen, Hunt Hawkins, Sharon Geiger, Denise Passmore, Pat Maher, Amy Thompson, Jane Noll, Jianping Qi, Sandra Reynolds, Barbara Shircliffe, Kathy Laframboise, Eleni Manolaraki, Paul Reller

Absent: Ken Caswell, Jeff Ryan(Excused), Cheryl Zambroski, Ed Kellner (Excused)

Guests/Ex Officio: Janet Moore (UGS), Michael Kanning (UGS), Diane Williams (C21TE), Steve RiCharde (IEA), Bob Potter (CAS), Karla Davis-Salazar (FAC), Joe Moxley (FAC), Dan Belgrad (FAC)

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m.

The minutes of January 4th, 2010 were approved with revisions.

Announcements

Kersaint introduced the Faculty Assessment Coordinators, who were asked to attend the meeting. The FACs work directly with those faculty members teaching courses in particular core areas to ensure that Assessment-related efforts proceed smoothly.

New Business

Guest Speakers

1. The USF Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) Janet Moore, Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies and QEP Director Janet Moore spoke about the impact of the USF QEP on the activities of the Council.

Dr. Moore distributed information and explained how the FKL, along with Undergraduate Research, are two integral parts of the QEP. SACS, in their review of USF, will be looking at to what degree we have addressed the commitments made in the QEP. She emphasized areas for which the Council will need to focus its attention for the remainder of the semester: encouraging the submission of capstone courses, reviewing assessment data, determining the recertification process, and helping faculty understand the QEP Inquiry-Based Learning.

Dr. Kersaint affirmed areas of needed attention and suggested that the Council will engage in ongoing discussions to refine the curriculum and focus on the recertification process. She encouraged Council members to encourage submissions of capstone courses from faculty in their respective units.

2. Assessment of Student Writing Skills Joe Moxley, Faculty Assessment Coordinator for the writing dimension of the FKL Core Curriculum requested support from the Council for a proposal to the technology committee for funds to develop a web-based interface to provide resources to students and faculty about the writing process and to provide a means for assessing the writing dimension.

He shared the rubric that was developed and is being used by First Year Composition instructors to easily and c

Dr. Moxley also suggested that because this type of system is being used to assess writing in FYC courses, that it might be appropriate for the GEC to mandate its use for assessment purposes in the Exit/Writing Intensive Courses. This would allow the university to determine the extent to which experiences at USF have contributed to their writing abilities. Council members expressed concern about providing such a mandate at this time, but are willing to revisit this recommendation if 1) the web-interface is funded and 2) the assessment data provides sufficient information to warrant its use in Exit courses.

The council voted to support the proposal and its request for funds for the development of the web-based interface.

Old Business

Information Literacy Dimension proposal for discussion Drew Smith distributed and presented information showing the relationship between inquiry-Based Learning and Information Literacy. He argued that Information Literacy skills were necessary components of many Inquiry-Based learning skills. As a result, it may be that faculty would like to see certain Information Literacy skills included and assessed as part of the FKL Core. There was some discussion about how this relationship can be used to help the FKL in the future. Council members were asked to review the information that was shared for further discussion at the next meeting.

We will examine a diverse selection of pieces and genres ranging from traditional European art music forms to jazz, rock, and hip hop.

5. WST3311 Issues in Feminism

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| Core Area | Social and Behavioral Sciences | Dimensions | CT, INQ, HCD, IRD |
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This course expands on existing knowledge, as well as provides new awareness, to the experiences women face within society. Critical issues, such as racism, sexism, homophobia and many more will be examined from a cultural context.

b) Funding Request

6. GLY2100 History of Life

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| Core Area | Natural (Physical) Science | Dimensions | CT, INQ, |
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