

FHSU General Education Committee

Minutes

Meeting Called by

Bradley Will, Chair

Date: Thursday September 24, 2020

Time: 3:30-5:00

Location: cyberspace

Members

Douglas Drabkin (AHSS)

Marcella Marez (AHSS)

Christina Glenn (BE)

David Schmidt (BE)

Sarah Broman Miller (Ed)

Phillip Olt (Ed)

Glen McNeil (HBS)

Denise Orth (HBS)

Joe Chretien (STM)

Lanee Young (STM)

Robyn Hartman (Lib)

Helen Miles (Senate)

Isaiah Schindler (SGA)

Cheryl Duffy (Goss Engl)

Tanya Smith (Grad Sch)

3:30 (1 minute) All members were present with the exception of Chretien. Eric Leuschner (English), Elizabeth Langley (Modern Languages), and Kevin Splichal (Faculty Senate) were also in attendance. Determined that a quorum was met.

3:31 (4 minutes) Chair encouraged committee members to consider participating in the 2020 Assessment Institute offered by Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis free of charge via Zoom from Sunday October 25 through Wednesday October 28. Several sessions have to do with general education.

3:35 (3 minutes) The minutes were approved by electronic poll (new Chair toy): 14 in favor, 1 abstaining.

3:38 (3 minutes) Chair announced that each week's agenda will announce the courses slated for consideration in the following week's meeting, and no courses will be considered that have not been announced in the previous week's agenda. (For example, as no courses were announced in this week's agenda, none will be considered next week.)

3:41 (5 minutes) The committee considered and unanimously **approved** ENG 125: World Literature and the Human Experience for satisfying the 2.1A outcomes (aesthetic mode of inquiry).

3:46 (2 minutes) Kevin Splichal asked if Workday will allow him, as Faculty Senate President, to see courses coming up for Senate review before they make it through the Academic Affairs Committee. (The old Lotus Notes system allowed people up the chain of approval to see what's coming before it gets to them.) Chair answered no.

3:48 (24 minutes) The committee considered and voted unanimously to **table** two courses, MLNG 201: Beginning French I and MLNG 225: Beginning Spanish I, which have been proposed for satisfying the 3.2 outcomes (intercultural competence). The department was asked to revise the CORE rubrics so that the assessment criteria being proposed more precisely track each of the two 3.2 outcomes; they should focus on what is relevant to the outcomes and cut away what is irrelevant.

4:12 (21 minutes) Miles reported on how the course HHP 230: Principles of Nutrition fared this week in the Academic Affairs Committee. This course had been proposed to satisfy the 2.1D.1-2 outcomes (natural scientific mode of inquiry), and our committee approved this proposal at our May 14, 2020 meeting, 9 in favor, 4 opposed. ([See the minutes](#) for a fairly detailed account of the reasoning behind our approval.) The upshot is that the Academic Affairs Committee did not approve the course; on the contrary, all votes were either abstentions or cast against. Their reasoning was roughly the same as that given by the natural scientific mode of inquiry faculty advisory panel (see the appendix of the May 14 minutes), which we found less than persuasive. As this is the first time this sort of thing has happened to a course that we've approved, the question was -- what next? The answer appears to be that, not having been approved, the proposal doesn't go forward to Faculty Senate. Nor does it come back to us. It just stops. The course could be re-proposed, with or without changes, but some members of the committee suggested that there are political questions that may need to be settled -- not in our committee, but perhaps in Faculty Senate or Academic Council (council of deans) -- before this move would be prudent. Our work on this course, for now, is complete.

4:33 Meeting ended. The meeting for Thursday October 1 has been cancelled (see 3:38). Our next meeting is Wednesday October 8 in cyberspace.

Submitted by **D. Drabkin, Recording Secretary**

