

FHSU General Education Committee

Minutes

Meeting Called by

Bradley Will, Chair

Date: Thursday October 4, 2018

Time: 3:30-5:00

Location: Smoky Hill Room, Memorial Union

Members

Douglas Drabkin (AHSS)

Marcella Marez (AHSS)

Jessica Heronemus (BE)

David Schmidt (BE)

Sarah Broman (Ed)

Kevin Splichal (Ed)

Trey Hill (HBS)

Glen McNeil (HBS)

Joe Chretien (STM)

Tom Schafer (STM)

Robyn Hartman (Lib)

Helen Miles (Senate)

Adam Schibi (SGA)

Cheryl Duffy (Goss Engl)

Tanya Smith (Grad Sch)

3:30 (1 minute) All members were present with the exception of Broman, Chretien, Duffy, Smith, and Splichal. Schafer was serving as proxy for Broman and Splichal. Determined that a quorum was met.

3:31 (8 minutes) Chair reported on the presentation he made to faculty senate on Tuesday, October 2, and indicated that he only had time to sketch out the outcomes-based approach of the FHSU CORE program and some of our rationale for taking this approach. The senate will be revisiting the proposal in meetings later this semester. Chair also announced that he has it on the authority of Travis Taggart, Enterprise Systems Director for the Office of Technology Services, that the Tiger Central system should be able to be modified for recording the learning outcomes data generated by FHSU CORE, and that this modification can be operational in Fall 2020 when the program launches. It may even be operational for recording the COMM 100 data (the objective 1.1-B outcomes) that is being generated in this semester.

3:39 (59 minutes) Chair explained that what faculty senate needs most from the committee at present is an indication of how many credit hours of coursework are necessary to complete the program being proposed. To this end, McNeil sketched out some thoughts on satisfying the CORE outcomes in as few as 42 hours or in as many as 63 hours. The variability comes in three ways: (1) satisfying a set of outcomes in a 2 hour course as opposed to a 3 hour course; (2) satisfying a set of outcomes in an in-the-major course as opposed to an outside-the-major course; and (3) satisfying the outcomes for multiple objectives in the same course as opposed to satisfying them in separate courses. Heronemus reiterated that it would be desirable for the program to be flexible, particularly for students enrolled in highly

prescriptive, high-credit-hour major programs. Schafer noted that all this variability, while desirable in the abstract, may be disastrous in execution, causing administrative chaos and resulting in uneven achievement of the desired outcomes. Drabkin suggested that the committee may do well to turn its attention, not at first to any particular proposal for required courses, recommended electives, merging of sets of outcomes, etc., but instead to **setting rules for approving the courses** that will achieve the desired outcomes. We may, for instance, decide to set a rule that certain particular courses are required for a given set of outcomes, or that the outcomes for multiple objectives can (or cannot) be satisfied in a single course, or that for a course to be approved for satisfying multiple objectives it must be approved by separate subcommittees overseeing the corresponding elements of the program, and so on. The committee decided to turn its immediate attention to developing the rules for putting FHSU CORE into effect. The hope is that, if the rules are written well, our colleagues will be encouraged to develop creative ways to achieve the outcomes we desire as efficiently as can be managed. This discussion will begin on Yellowdig (accessible through the committee's BlackBoard site), and then continue in our meetings. Committee members are encouraged to float ideas for rules as posts on Yellowdig, and then to discuss them as threaded discussions, commenting directly in reply to the particular post of interest.

4:38 Meeting ended. The committee will gather next on Thursday, October 11 at 3:30 in the Pioneer Room of Memorial Union.

Submitted by D. Drabkin, Recording Secretary



Festina lente