**Academic Affairs Committee**

**Minutes for Meeting No.3**

**Wednesday, October 23, 2024**

**6:00 P.M.**

**Circus Room, Bone Student Center**

**Call to Order**

**Roll Call**: Blum, Han, Ionescu, Nikolaou, Seifert, Werner-Powell, Bever, Blair, Montoya, Myers-Hoops, Sharp, *Hurd (AVP for Undergraduate Education)*. (Note: quorum is six voting members; *ex-officio*).

* Present: Blum, Han, Ionescu, Nikolaou, Seifert, Blair, Montoya, Myers-Hoops, Hurd.
* Absent: Werner-Powell, Bever, Sharp.

**Public Comment(s)**

* None.

**Order of Business:**

1. Approval of *Minutes#02AAC09.25.24*

* The approval of the minutes was delayed until the next meeting due to computer issues when recording the minutes.

1. Reinstatement Committee Annual Report 2023-2024

* Discussion on whether the provided statistics are available separately for first-year, sophomore, junior, and senior students and whether there are college-specific trends.
* The report was unanimously approved.

1. General Education Revision:

* Is the intention that all learning objectives will be met under each category or only a subset of the listed objectives? The Experiential Learning and Civic Engagement category specifies that at least two objectives need to be met, whereas all other categories do not include that only a subset will be met.
* Some categories refer specifically to global issues. Will this limit courses in such categories to not receiving AMALI designation in addition to Gen Ed designation? Hurd stated that the intention was not to exclude any courses from receiving AMALI or IDEAS designation from any category. A course can cover global issues and receive IDEAS designation as long as the course has at least 75% of the content focused on US issues. Similarly, for AMALI designation.
* Discussion about the implementation of the new program. Hurd has looked at how current Gen Ed courses might map into the proposed new categories. Ionescu requested to discuss this mapping in the committee and Hurd will provide this information along with the General Education programs that comparator institutions have. They will be discussed during our next meeting.
* Discussion about whether departments/schools could offer courses in each category with students taking all their Gen Ed courses from only one unit. The concern is that there could be students with no interdisciplinarity, which would be in conflict with the purpose of a Gen Ed program. The Committee discussed that even though this could be an outcome, departments/schools would not have expertise in each of the categories resulting in students not taking courses from multiple disciplines.
* Discussion of comments about not requiring a lab as part of the new proposal. Hurd stated that this is not a change as the current General Education program does not require a lab, but courses that satisfy the Gen Ed requirement from sciences have a lab. The new program will rely on these existing courses, so students will still complete a lab even without the program requiring a lab.
* Discussion of letters submitted by departments that fall under Social Sciences and Humanities and the description of the Exploring the Human Condition category. The description covers issues that apply to many disciplines beyond the Humanities, yet the description refers specifically to the Humanities division. The language will be revised to refer to the *human experience* rather than the Humanities, allowing for different disciplines to submit courses under this designation.
* Why do we limit each course to be submitted only to one Gen Ed category? Why not allow courses to appear in multiple categories (it can be limited to, say, only two categories) and only count once (no double counting)? The concern is that the system will not allow for a course to appear under more than one category. The current Gen Ed program also does not allow for a course to appear under more than one category, so this is not a change.
* How do the Scientific Literacy and STEM categories relate to each other? The provided learning outcomes are the same even though Scientific Literacy requires one discipline and STEM requires at least two STEM disciplines. Was the intention to state *two or more STEM disciplines*, or was it to emphasize that a multidisciplinary approach is required for courses under this category? Hurd mentioned that the Gen Ed Taskforce consulted with CeMaST, and this was their recommendation. AAC expressed a concern that it might be hard to find courses to fill this category due to the current wording. The Committee will check with CGE and UCC if this is the true intention after reviewing the current courses that would be mapped into this category.
* Discussion about the reference to creative writing under the Creative Arts category and whether this would include disciplines such as creative writing courses within English, screenplays, and songwriting or be limited to the Wonsook Kim College of Fine Arts.

**Adjourn**

* The meeting adjourned at 8:02 pm.