

**UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA
General Education Council
Minutes of October 1st, 2007**

Present: Drew Smith, C. David Frankel, Ed Kellner, Gladis Kersaint, Hunt Hawkins, Ilene Frank, Jane Noll, John Ferron, John M. Belohlavek, Laura Rusnak, Nancy White, Paul Reller, Phil Levy, Scott Campbell, Sharon Geiger, Sue Bartlett.

Ex-Officio/ Guests: Cheryl Zambroski, Cyndi Collins, Diane Williams, Georg Kleine, Janet Moore, Kathy Laframboise, Terri Flateby, Arka Bhattacharya.

Absent: Joan Morris, Jeff Ryan (excused).

The meeting was called to order at 3.03 p.m. in SVC 2080. Dr. Kersaint presided.

Minutes: The minutes of September 17, 2007, were approved with suggested amendments.

Presentation by Stuart Silverman, Dean of Honors College

The Dean of the Honors College, Dr. Stuart Silverman, gave a presentation about the Honors College core courses and their prior approval as part of the present Liberal Arts General Education curriculum. Now they are seeking similar approval for the Honors College core courses through the GEC review process. The core courses offered by the Honors College are written by the college and not by the faculty as they do not have faculty members but rely on faculty from other colleges to teach Honors courses. He stated that the faculties teaching for the Honors College are aware of the new General Education course requirements and would welcome any assessment and guidelines introduced by faculty members. It was noted that Honors College courses are capped at 25. The General Education Council members stated that they will require the Honors College to submit courses with 4 dimensions, learning objectives, learning outcomes, method of assessment and the instructional objectives as listed in the GEC proposal website.

Course Proposal Review Status :

Approved Courses

1. Without Funding

- **REL 3111 - Religious Quest in Contemporary Films-----Approved.**
This course uses contemporary films such as *Gandhi*, *Malcolm X*, *The Long Walk Home*, *The Chosen*, and *Grand Canyon* to explore the personal and social aspects of religion in modern secular societies, pinpointing issues of racism, sexism, liberation, etc. This course was approved and meets the **Gordon Rule Communication** requirement.

Core Area: Social and Behavioral Sciences

Dimensions: CT, I, HCD, EP.

2. With Funding Requests (\$\$\$\$)

- **OCE 2001 - Introduction to Oceanography (Online) -----Content Approved only.**
This is a course in basic oceanography covering chemical (what is the sea made of), physical (tides, currents, waves), geological (ocean floor and coasts) and biological (all life in the oceans) aspects, and their interactions. This course content was approved but the funding request needs to be reviewed by the funding committee before full approval can be given.

Core Area: Physical Sciences

Dimensions: CT, I, SP ENP.

Review Issues

The Council members discussed issues related to the website with the review process. Many reviewers stated that the reviews don't show up in the website after being submitted by them. The members agreed to send their web related issues to Dr. Diane Williams. It was agreed that the Team Captains have the responsibility for being sure reviews are completed in a timely way and have the lead role in moving the review process forward. A brief training will be provided to the new members about the review guidelines and processes. The Team leader will compile the concerns shared by review team members and draft a final summary report which will be sent to the course submitters. It was suggested that emails be sent to the course reviewers about their courses and their team members. The members approved the notion that courses will be reviewed based on content and not based on delivery method.

Committee Reports

1. Assessment Subcommittee

The sub-committee members will be composed of voting and non-voting members. The suggested non-voting members will be termed as Ex-Officio non voting members. It was announced that a meeting of the Assessment Subcommittee will be held next week.

2. Marketing/Promotions

The GEC announced that the Marketing/Promotions subcommittee meeting will be on October 10.

3. Recertification Process

The GEC announced that Recertification Process committee will be meeting on October 16th. The role of the members in this committee will be setting up requirements and guidelines which will be needed by the course submitters in three years for course recertification purposes.

The next meeting will be on Monday, October 15, 2007, at **3:00 pm** in **SVC 2080**. The meeting was adjourned at 4:32 pm.