

**UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA**  
**General Education Council**  
**Minutes of March 17, 2008**

Present: Sue Bartlett (COBA), Kenneth Caswell (CAS), Scott Campbell (COENG), John Ferron (COEDU), Ilene Frank (LIB), C. David Frankel (VPA), Hunt Hawkins (CAS), Ed Kellner (COENG), Gladis Kersaint (COEDU), Philip Levy (CAS), Joan Morris (NURS), Jane Noll (CAS), Paul Reller (VPA), Jeffery Ryan (CAS), Drew Smith (LIB), Nancy White (CAS), Cheryl Zambroski (NUR)

Absent: Sharon Geiger (Honors), Kathy Laframboise (COEDU), Kay Perrin (COPH)

Guests/ Ex Officio: Cyndie Collins (USF St. Petersburg), Terri Flateby (Assessment), Charlene Herreid (UGS), Pat Maher (Student Affairs), Janet Moore (UGS), Victor Peppard (CAS), Diane Williams (C21TE)

The meeting was called to order at 3:15 p.m.

The minutes were approved as amended.

**Announcements:**

**Funding.** Course funding has not been cut for this Council. The Funding Subcommittee is moving forward. Members will be meeting soon to talk about criteria for decision making and verify submitted information.

**Non-substantive Changes.** A request for a non-substantive change to a course that has already been approved by the General Education Council highlighted the fact that the Council did not have a process for approving non-substantive changes. A process has now been implemented. There is now a section on the General Education Council website for submitting non-substantive General Education course changes. Non-substantive changes will be reviewed by the Chair of the General Education Council and approved if there are no problems.

**Meeting with CAS Department Chairs.** Chair Kersaint met recently with the College of Arts and Sciences Department Chairs. She briefed them on the Council's work and progress and department chairs were encouraged to ask questions. Some concerns expressed were about future progress of the Council, the future of exit courses, status of budget requests and the deadline for course submissions.

**Resubmissions.** Chair Kersaint contacted faculty members whose proposals were returned this term and asked them to resubmit their courses by April 1. This will allow the committee the possibility of completing a second review and approving courses in time for them to be offered in fall 2008 term.

**New Submissions.** Chair Kersaint encouraged the CAS department chairs to send in new proposal submissions as soon as possible. Dean Sullins will be sending out a letter with a list of courses that were part of the prior program showing what has been approved so far. The list will also include new courses that have been approved. Old courses can still serve the old requirement until Summer 2009. The new cohort of students entering in the fall term 2009 will get the new curriculum. The Council is aware of gaps course submissions in the areas of math and science. It may be necessary to shift core areas covered by previously submitted courses to make sure that there are enough offerings in each core area.

**Review Issues:**

## Course Proposal Review Status:

### Approved Courses

#### 1. *Without Funding*

- **ANT 2410– Cultural Anthropology-----Approved.**  
This course exposes students to methods and concepts for cross cultural study of the world's peoples. Case studies demonstrate variations in human adaptation and encourage an understanding of and appreciation for diverse cultures and their values.

**Core Area:** Cultural Diversity and Global Context      **Dimensions:** CT, IBL, GC, HCD, EP

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

- **MMC 3602 – Mass Communication and Society-----Approved.**  
This course is a survey of the history, theory, processes and philosophy of mass communications and the mass media in the United States, and their relationship to the other major institutions of American society.

**Core Area:** Social and Behavioral Sciences      **Dimensions:** CT, IBL, HHCP, EP

### Courses Pending Reviewer Action

AFH 3100 needs more work. Summaries are needed for AMS 4804, GLY 2030 and REL3475. CLA 3124 will probably need to be returned. PET 3252 will be returned. MUH 2051 has 3 reviews and needs and summary.

### Old Business

None.

### Committee Reports

#### 1. Marketing Sub-committee

No report.

#### 2. Recertification Sub-committee

See Assessment Sub-committee.

#### 3. Assessment Sub-committee

It was recommended that the Assessment and Recertification Sub-committees coordinate their work. The University of North Carolina assessment document was distributed to Council members as an example of what other universities are doing in this area. Council members discussed programmatic vs. course level assessment. An assessment of General Education at the program level will be required, but course level assessments are also necessary and can feed into program level assessments. It was reiterated that recertification

is necessary to keep General Education courses from drifting off course, as they have in the past. SACS will be looking at general education outcomes at USF and how they are assessed. Assessment should be a part of every course. SACS wants direct measures. An "Academic Learning Compact" type document is needed for General Education. ALCs are not assessments, but a statement of expected student outcomes that will be assessed. There was consensus that the University should try to use data already being collected and aggregate it. Assessment should be faculty driven.

4. Funding Subcommittee

No report.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 pm.

The next meeting of the General Education Council will be held April 7, 2008 at 3 pm in SVC 5012.