
USF St. Petersburg Faculty Senate Committee: General Education: Meetings USF St. Petersburg Faculty Senate Committee: General Education

12-7-2011

General Education Committee Meeting : 2011 : 12 : 07

General Education Committee

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USFSP - GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF DECEMBER 7, 2011

Present:

Kathy Arthur (co-chair); Maria Luisa Corton - (co-chair); Morgan Gresham; George Roy; Patricia Pettijohn; Adrian O'Connor (new member)

Absent: Hugh LaFollette (start attending in spring 2012)

Ex Officio: J.E. Gonzalez (Ernie) – Administrative Affairs

Guest: Christopher Davis- Faculty Senate President

The meeting was called to order at 1pm.

- The minutes of October 26, 2011, were approved.

New Business.

- Chris Davis presented the charge to the GE committee for 2011-1012.

The proposed charge for years 2011-2012, follows:

1. Reviewing the philosophy of the General Education requirements at USFSP
2. Evaluating the existing list of student learning outcomes (SLO);
3. Examining the suitability of GE courses and the rationale for how these courses support the learning outcomes;
4. Making suggestions to improve GE assessment.

Bearing in mind that the institution was recently on probation for not doing a particularly good job of documenting activities relating to assessment of GE, the rationale for this charge is to offer a structured opportunity to refine the SLOs, continue to refine the number of course offerings that address SLOs, and establish a institutional solution for facilitating the collection and reporting of assessment data.

The committee would be asked to prepare a report that would include recommendations for proposed change

- Chris explained that the 2011-2012 charge of the committee revolved around concerns about the consistency/lack of agreement/duplication of assessment data/forms and on the integration and participation of administration and faculty as a fundamental factor to improve the GE assessment process of USFSP through the next 5 years.
- To this end, an analysis/review of the current USFSP assessment process is required, starting from the General Education philosophy, or point 1 in the charge above, and going through points 2 and 3 thereafter. To accomplish this Chris encouraged the committee to make the most of the resources at hand, including the relationship with Ernie Gonzalez as an ex officio member of the committee and an expert in the subject.
- Ernie Gonzalez will be instrumental for the data and information collection required by the committee to perform a cohesive and collaborative analysis. The committee will provide Ernie with a list of data/ information required for the analysis. Ernie may make requests to the

committee at some point too. Requests should be kept reasonable by both parties. Difficulties or request for help will be posted to the Faculty Senate.

- In reviewing/setting the philosophy of USFSP General Education the committee will begin by examining the USFSP mission and each college mission statement.
- In reviewing the assessment process the committee will keep in mind that the procedure is reflective.
- Ernie mentioned Share Point - Microsoft collaboration software that helps simplify content management¹ - as a 'tool' to be used in the assessment process. It was made clear by Chris that using Share Point, as a simplifier content management software, would imply a different way (or it would replace) of access documents stored in the Q-drive, and that it does not imply any type of logic or processing capability related specifically to assessment tasks. The committee will consider it at a proper time.
- There was agreement on expanding the participation of the College of Arts and Science in the GE committee as Morgan informed us about the interest of the CAS c for a wider representation. We expect to include new members in the next meeting.

Old Business.

- The committee will address the rest of the points from today's agenda in the next meeting.
- The next meeting will occur on Wednesday January 25, 2012, in Harbor Hall conference room.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40pm

¹ <http://sharepoint.microsoft.com/en-us/Pages/default.aspx>