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9-27-2013

## General Education Committee Meeting : 2013 : 09 : 27

General Education Committee

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## GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

### Agenda

Friday September 27, 2013 Davis 100 10 am

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#### **Committee Members:**

1. Kathy Arthur, Chair
2. Deni Elliott (Arts and Sciences)
3. Kathy Carvalho-Knighton (Arts and Sciences)
4. Gary Austin (Library)
5. David John (Arts and Sciences) excused
6. Deanna Michael (Education)
7. Morgan Gresham (Arts and Sciences)
8. Hugh LaFollette (Arts and Sciences)
9. Adrian O'Connor (Arts and Sciences) excused
10. Rick Smith (Business)

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### **AGENDA**

- 10:00-10:15 Chair Updates  
9/6 Minute Approval  
Search A Bull and Gen-ed  
ETS testing  
Meeting with Vice Chancellor Fueyo Assessment of F2010-S2013
1. Accurate Check List Semester by Semester of All GE Courses and whether or not we have the assessment for each course
  2. Tables each semester by GE subject area summarizing assessment for each SLO
- 10:15-10:30 Discuss State Core List response by faculty  
Sullins email
- 10:30-11:00 SLOs Discussion & Approval
- 11:00-11:30 Discuss Criteria for USFSP specific courses  
USFSP Specific Course Criteria Revisting  
Decided
- All current GE courses will be eliminated and we will start fresh with new applications for all State and USFSP Gen-ed Courses in Spring 2014
  - Faculty members on the GE committee who are either personally or for whom their department are proposing applications will recues themselves from review of those applications
  - Demonstrate course promotes the aims of the GE Philosophy

- Demonstrate thoughtful assessment in course for students of ALL SLOs for both State and USFPS specific courses

#### Suggestions

- Limit the total list (state and local) to 10 courses in each subject area
- Diversity in subject areas
- Encourage full-time faculty to be responsible for at least 1 section of the course each semester the course is taught

11:30-12:00 University wide Gen ed Fall meeting  
 Course Applications  
 Assessment

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## MINUTES

### **Sept. 6, 2013 Minutes approved with spelling corrections**

#### **Chair Announcements:**

- Linda Crossman sent an email indicating that St. Petersburgs GE courses are now listed as St. Pete GE courses in Search-a-Bull
- ETS Testing- Vice Chancellor Vivian Fueyo strongly stated that the responsibility for ETS testing is administrative and not faculty or GE Committee responsibility as per E. Gonzalez request last meeting.
- F2010-S2013 Assessment- Vice Chancellor Fueyo assured me that by Oct. 15 we would have an accurate check list semester by semester of all GE courses and whether or not we have the assessment or not for each course. After the checklist is complete they will work on creating summary tables for each semester for each SLO.

#### **Other Announcements:**

- Deni Elliott and Kathy Carvalho will not be able to attend the Oct. 11 meeting.
- Kathy Carvalho and Deanna Michael will not be able to attend the Oct. 25 meeting.
- Deanna Michael indicated that Vice Chancellor Fueyo stated that the new RVC for Administrative and Financial Services, Joseph Trubaz, will temporarily take on the responsibilities of Institutional Effectiveness & Student Success after Ernie Gonzalez leaves in late November.

#### **Faculty Response to State Core GE Course List to present to Vice Chancellor Fueyo**

- The faculty are concerned about the lack of global competency and international studies present in the State Core List. As a consequence, the GE committee will encourage USFSP specific GE courses to fill this void.

- In order to encourage students to complete their GE courses at USFSP, we need to offer as many of the State GE courses at our institution. We are concerned that in several areas, but particularly in the Humanities we do not have any full-time faculty that either do not have expertise in the course, which would make even hiring and evaluating adjuncts impossible. For instance we have no full-time music, theater, philosophy or generalized humanities faculty. We would like administrative support indicating that these lines could be filled, before we move forward to list them as options for USFSP State Core in Fall 2015.
- We also want to express a concern that consistently offering courses in the subject areas of Communication, Mathematics, and Natural Sciences will be difficult for full-time faculty. Although we may have faculty with specialties in these areas, with the new State Core we are stretching our faculty. In order to manage, the number of sections for these subject area courses means either our full-time faculty teach nothing but GE courses (so they have little time to teach the other courses required for their major and/or their graduate courses) or that we hire a large number of adjuncts.

**USFSP Specific Course Criteria- This is a Consolidation and Reaffirmation of previous discussion by the committee**

The GE Committee would like a WISH LIST of USFSP specific courses from each department by early January

The GE Committee will NOT guarantee that all or even any of the courses that department's submit on the WISH LIST will become future GE Courses

All Current GE courses will be eliminated from the list and we will begin a new GE program consisting of the State Core and USFSP courses in Fall 2015

Faculty members on the GE committee, who are either personally or for whom their discipline are proposing applications, will recues themselves from review of those applications

- Departments can consider including new courses or previous GE courses on their list, but they must be 1000 or 2000 level courses
- We expect for each proposed course that the department have a full-time faculty member to
  - be qualified to teach the proposed course
  - be responsible for ensuring that the course promotes the aims of the GE philosophy
  - and demonstrate assessment in the course of ALL SLOs for both State and USFSPS specific course
- We will look favorably on courses that when appropriate include an international focus. Our goal here is to balance the State Core GE List and to reinforce our Universities' Strategic Plan Mission.
- We will look favorably on courses that expand the diversity of disciplines offered in the State Core List. Our goal here is one of General Education philosophy, which

- aims to expose students to as many disciplines as possible early in their academic career.
- However, we will be limiting the number of courses offered in each subject area (State and USFSP specific) to between 10 and 15, which would limit our GE program to 50 to 75 courses

Kathy will meet with the Department Chairs in November to discuss this.

### USFSP SLOS

- Kathy Arthur indicated that she shared the SLOs with Business and Education Colleges, as well as with ESP, and the Social Science Departments- Psychology and Society, Culture, and Languages and included their remarks in her revisions of the SLOs.
- Deanna stated that Education was ok with SLOs but was concerned that our students are not getting enough Science and Math to teach 5<sup>th</sup> graders.
- Rick indicated that Business and Psychology were concerned about the wording including status which indicated individual rather than institutional level of analysis. They were both also concerned about including ethics as this was covered in their majors rather than in GenEd courses.
- Social Science SLOs- Business, Psy and SCL requested similar changes to the SLOs, which Kathy Arthur made, but some indicated they wanted a synthesis for the writing assignment and others wanted an argument and the GE committee discussed this.
- Continue discussion of SLOs next time.

**UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA SAINT PETERSBURG  
GENERAL EDUCATION  
STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES**

**❖COMMUNICATIONS ❖**

State mandated Student Learning Outcomes (SLO):

- Students will demonstrate the ability to communicate effectively.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to analyze communication critically.

In pursuit and amplification of State SLO, it is expected that in USFSP courses:

- Students **interpret the theoretical, legal, ethical, and practical** underpinnings of communication and assess the connection between communication and other disciplines.
- Students **demonstrate fluency in grammar, spelling and mechanics**; they **communicate with accuracy, clarity and style** for different audiences and across multimedia platforms.
- Students **locate, evaluate, organize and use** research material collected from physical and virtual world sources. Students **perform basic numerical computations** and **interpret statistical data** regarding communication intent and audience analysis, and apply these concepts in the creation and consumption of communication.
- Students **demonstrate the ability to work with a range of visual communication** techniques as well as evaluate and communicate potential influences, impact, and limitations of visual communication.

**❖HUMANITIES❖**

State mandated Student Learning Outcomes:

- Students will confirm the ability to think critically through demonstrating interpretive ability and cultural literacy.
- Students will acquire competence in reflecting critically upon the human condition

In pursuit and amplification of State SLO, it is expected that in USFSP courses:

- Students will demonstrate some **Knowledge of the Vocabularies and Techniques** appropriate to the discipline, including the relevant use of quantitative methods.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to **Analyze the Relationship** between social, political, historical, or cultural contexts and the ideas, peoples, events, and themes that have shaped the human experience;
- Students will demonstrate the ability to **Analyze** texts, **Express** ideas, and **Present** arguments in clear and **Precise Prose**.

### ❖MATHEMATICS❖

State mandated Student Learning Outcomes:

- Students will determine appropriate mathematical and computational models and methods in problem solving, and demonstrate an understanding of mathematical concepts.
- Students will apply appropriate mathematical and computational models and methods in problem solving

In pursuit and amplification of State SLO, it is expected that in USFSP courses:

- Students demonstrate the ability to accurately **Calculate and Solve** arithmetic, algebra, geometry and statistics problems;
- Students demonstrate the ability to **Represent, Comprehend, and Evaluate** quantitative problems numerically, graphically, symbolically, in a tabular way and/or in written prose;

### ❖NATURAL SCIENCES❖

State mandated Student Learning Outcomes:

- Students will demonstrate the ability to critically examine and evaluate scientific observation, hypothesis, or model construction, and the use of scientific method to explain the natural world.
- Students will successfully recognize and comprehend fundamental concepts, principles, and processes about the natural world.

In pursuit and amplification of State SLO, it is expected that in USFSP courses:

- Students will **communicate in Writing** the examination of scientific observations, hypotheses or models, to include **Quantitative Analyses** and relevance to societal issues.

❖**SOCIAL SCIENCES**❖

State mandated Student Learning Outcomes:

- Students will demonstrate the ability to examine behavioral, social, and cultural issues from a variety of points of view.
- Students will demonstrate an understanding of basic social and behavioral b science concepts and principles used in the analysis of behavioral, social, and cultural issues, past and present, local and global.

In pursuit and amplification of State SLO, it is expected that in USFSP courses:

- Students will **Construct a quality Well-Written argument/synthesis** demonstrating that they can **Identify and Critically Evaluate** the roles, diversity, and interactions among factors such as race, age, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and cultural, socioeconomic, and political institutions in shaping human behaviors and interactions, past or present.
- Students will **Demonstrate Knowledge of Quantitative and Qualitative Methods** of social scientists as they formulate and seek to answer questions about the nature of social organizations and institutions.

DRAFT