GEACC Meeting Notes

Chairperson: Ron Picard
Vice Chairperson: Vacant
Secretary: Amy Lenoce (sabbatical)

Attendees: Beth-Ann Scott, Jaime Hammond, Pete Benzi, Alex Zozulin, Ben Mattheis, Katie Lozo, Burton Tedesco, Jim Pronovost, Sandra Eddy, Joe Ward, Ron Picard

Guests: Lindsey Hollister, Patty Pallis

General Education Meeting 9-25-14

1. Approval of 9-18-14 minutes

Motion to accept: Joe Ward
Second: Alex Zozulin
Vote: All Agreed

2. Update on CEAC Meeting

There was debate in the CEAC meeting about which committee should be adjusting syllabi and changing outcomes. Jaime Hammond mentioned that CEAC Chair, Jim Branciforte thought CEAC should review courses which change their outcomes, not the GEACC. Patty Pallis, as the CEAC representative, said she has never seen a course come through the CEAC for review because the outcomes were changed. She also expressed concern for the voice of the faculty in the process of changing outcomes.

Ron Picard asked if CEAC trusted GEACC to determine the threshold for course outcomes changes that require CEAC approval. The GEACC members who attended the CEAC meeting all felt that Jim Branciforte would like all courses changing their outcomes to be referred to CEAC.

Patty Pallis reported that, in the CEAC meeting, Mitch Holmes asked about “blanket rulings” that would allow programs to review outcome changes as a group of courses and not individually. Mitch also voiced concern about new courses being sent back and forth between GEACC and CEAC.

Beth-Ann Scott suggested we vote as a group on policy and the process of changing outcomes, and Ron asked that everyone bring in ideas next week for process/policy to bring to CEAC.
Sandra asked where the course outcomes are located. Ron answered that approved outcomes have been sent to division directors and the CEAC chair. The Division Directors were instructed to share them with department chairs. Patty suggested we publish the new outcomes. Ron replied that all approved applications with outcomes will be published on the Gen Ed website.

3. Presentation/Luncheon with Judith Summerfield and Book Discussion Group

Ron reminded us that Judith Summerfield is coming Thursday, November 13th for the presentation and luncheon. The book discussion groups would be held directly after the GEACC meetings from 2 p.m.-3 p.m. GEACC committee members may want to participate in the book discussions. Ron mentioned that he has 5 people already signed up to the discussions. There are 20 free books available for those participating.

Ron asked if the committee had ideas about the food portion of the luncheon. He opened the discussion to suggestions or preferences. Ron mentioned contacting the dining room, but there were concerns about availability. The question was asked if there was funding available. Ron stated that President DeFillippis has designated $1500 for the event. Patty Pallis asked if we were paying Judith Summerfield for the visit. Ron mentioned that he thought there might be a stipend.

Ron mentioned he was emailing with Judith Summerfield about the event. She is not sure if she will come to Waterbury the day before the event or the day of the event. If she comes up the day before, according to Ron, there is funding to house her. It is not yet determined if the lunch will precede or follow the presentation.

Jaime Hammond suggested we contact Sue Dimascia about a food suggestions. All agreed that seemed to be the best course of action.

4. ESL Assessment Plan

Ron said he received an email that indicated the assessment plan was attached. However, it was not. He wanted to make the committee aware that the ESL Assessment Plans are done and ready for review. He also mentioned he has responded to questions regarding the plan. These questions indicate that the Assessment should be acceptable.
5. Common Core Course not Mapped to New Competencies

There was a handout distributed listing the current core courses not mapped to new competencies. Ron stated that these courses may not “exist.” Beth-Ann clarified that “not existing” means courses not offered in the last 5 years. Regarding the Digital Media courses on the list, Ron said he was pursuing a meeting with Ray Leite.

Ron and Jim Pronovost expressed concern that Anatomy and Physiology (BIO*H-212) needs to be mapped because it is essential to Allied Health as well as transfer students pursuing bachelor degrees.

6. Program Modification for General Studies

A draft of the program modification for General Studies was distributed by Ron. He noted the major difference between this modification and the one for Liberal Arts and Sciences is that General Studies does not have a language requirement or a 200 Level English course.

Ben Mattheis pointed out a state requirements that no more than 15 credits may come from any one subject area. Katie asked if that was including core classes. Ben answered that of the remaining 21 credits no more than 15 could be from the same subject area.

Ron stated that Academic Affairs would be the sponsoring division for Liberal Arts/Sciences and General Studies. Ron asked if there should be a Banner change form completed. Everyone thought there should be, and Ron said he would meet with the Registrar, Joan Arbusto, concerning the matter.

7. Assessment Report Template

Ron asked for feedback about the template. Beth-Ann endorsed the template. Katie asked is assessments could be done as a group, specifically for Math. Ron said yes and asked if we should vote to approve the template.

Motion to Approve the Assessment Report Template: Katie Lozo
Second: Beth-Ann Scott
Vote: Unanimously approved
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8. Motion to adjourn.

Motion: Alex Zozulin
Meeting adjourned: 1:45 p.m.