

General Education Council

January 24, 2018

MU, PKP Room

MINUTES

PRESENT: Qiang Shi, Rich Sleezer, Chris Stone, Shawna Shane, Jo Kord, David McKenzie, Maddison Thompson, Damara Paris, Carol Lucy, Amy Oelschlager, Kim Massoth, and Andy Houchins

ABSENT: Joan Brewer, Kathy Landweir, Basil Kessler, Steve Lovett, Klasee Crawford, and Sheila Markowitz

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes from December 6, and December 13th were reviewed and approved as amended.

2. Fourth Category under General Education Goal 2B Humanities:

1. History
2. Literature/Mass Media
3. Philosophy
4. Art History?? What should the fourth category be

Sleezer discussed the existing categories with the Council. There was a general consensus that simplifying the wording for a better understanding for the students and everyone involved might be the best option. It was suggested that instead of a fourth category that changing the language describing the requirement to read something like 'two courses from two disciplines from the list below'. Sleezer agreed to visit with Markowitz about the idea. Houchins suggested tabling the discussion until the next General Education meeting.

3. Editing the Mission:

a. (Current) MISSION:

Sleezer presented the current mission and a draft (new) mission statement for the Council to consider:

Current Mission Statement: "The General Education Program at ESU provides students with an educational experience that promotes their personal well-being, prepares them for career success and provides for the common good. This program is at the core of the university experience and complements a student's major program of study."

The mission of the General Education Program at Emporia State University is to enhance our students' major programs of study by broadening their shared educational experience. The program accomplishes this mission by improving students' core skills, by increasing their knowledge of a wide variety of academic disciplines, by enhancing their capabilities to obtain, critically evaluate, and use information from different sources to solve problems and make informed decisions, and by preparing them to be knowledgeable, civic-minded, culturally competent, lifelong learners, and adaptive leaders in an increasingly diverse society.

There were a few suggestions for editing. For example, the Council thought it was too long. It needed to be shortened up a bit to take out the repeat wording in the document. After some discussion, Sleezer agreed to revise the document and bring back multiple versions for more discussion that incorporated the edits for the February 14th meeting.

4. Plans for Developing an Alternative General Education Program:

It was suggested by Sleezer that a smaller group start working on a plan and bring it back for more discussion. Houchins, Stone and Sleezer will work together on this.

Meeting adjourned: 3:55pm