

# General Education Council Minutes (Approved 2/24/2014)

November 21, 2013, 2:00 – 3:15 p.m.

Hoffman room, Morrow Library

Name	Organization	Status	Attended (11/21)
Beach, Gretchen Rae	Library	Voting Member	0
Brammer, Camilla A	COLA	Voting Member	1
Cartwright, Tina	COE	Voting Member	1
[vacancy]	COE	Voting Member	
Jackson, Susan	CAM	Voting Member	0
Laubach, Marty	COLA	Voting Member	1
Leonard, Tricia	COHP	Voting Member	1
LoCascio, Nicki	Honors/COS	Voting Member	1
Meadows, Pamela	COHP	Voting Member	1
McClure, Rex	COB	Voting Member	0
Sias, Jennifer	CAM	Voting Member	0
[vacancy]	COS	Voting Member	
Simonton, Scott	CITE	Voting Member	1
Swindell, Christopher	CAM	Voting Member	0
Wait, Isaac William	CITE	Voting Member	1
Bentley, Amber	University College	ex-officio	0
Dennison, Corley	AA	ex-officio	1
Reynolds, Mary E	Assessment	ex-officio	0
Smith, Sherri	CTL	ex-officio	0

1. Meeting minutes from 10/3/13 were approved.
  
2. Review of Electronic Voting. Opportunity was given to comment on the following courses, which were voted on and approved electronically following the 10/31/2013 meeting which did not achieve quorum. There were no comments on the courses or the electronic voting process.
  - HON 480 – Activism in Popular Culture – MC
  - HON 480 – Appalachia on Film – MC
  - CL 232 – Greek and Roman Drama – CT
  - CL 233 – Greek and Roman Historians – CT
  - CL 237 – Lit. in the Time of Nero – CT
  
3. New Course Approval Request. The following course was approved for the Critical Thinking attribute:
  - a. SFT 235 – Introduction to Safety (CT)

#### 4. New Business

- a. INTL course requirements. Faculty members from Political Science (Dr. Marybeth Beller, Dr. Jamie Warner, and Dr. Shawn Schulenberg) and History (Dr. Dan Holbrook) addressed the Council regarding their concern with the newly-adopted language for approving INTL courses, and the emphasis on “culture” within Element 3 and Element 4 of the Intercultural Thinking Outcome of the Marshall University Baccalaureate Degree Profile, upon which the requirements for an INTL course is based. The concern is that this cultural emphasis excludes courses that approach international study from a political or institutional standpoint.

These faculty members also expressed their more general concern that programs were not appropriately involved in the development of the Marshall University Baccalaureate Degree Profile, including both the Outcome descriptions and the traits associated with different levels of achievement.

To address these concerns, the General Education Council moved, seconded, and approved the following recommendation to the Faculty Senate:

The General Education Council recommends that the Faculty Senate consult with the departments and programs that teach courses with the International designation and revise the text of the Intercultural Thinking Outcome contained within SR-12-13-17 BAPC. As a starting point for the consideration of these revisions, the General Education Council suggests the following changes to Element 3 and Element 4 of that Outcome:

(3) **evaluate** ~~how~~ specific approaches to global issues ~~will affect multiple cultural communities~~, and (4) **untangle** competing economic, religious, social, **political, institutional,** or geographical interests ~~of cultural groups in conflict.~~

- b. Transfer courses and MC / INTL designation – ambiguity in approvals process. There was not sufficient time remaining in the meeting to discuss this agenda item.
- c. Old / Transfer courses and CT designation. Is equivalency (and approval) possible? There was not sufficient time remaining in the meeting to discuss this agenda item.