General Education Council

Meeting Minutes (Approved on May 3, 2013)

Meeting Date: April 5, 2013
Time: 12:00 p.m. – 1:20 pm
Location: Student Resource Center Conference Room, MSC

Name	Organization	Status	Attended (4/5)
Beach, Gretchen Rae	Library	Voting Member	1
Brammer, Camilla A	COLA	Voting Member	1
Cartwright, Tina	COE	Voting Member	0
Graham, Mary Jo	COE	Voting Member	0
Jackson, Susan	COFA	Voting Member	0
Laubach, Marty	COLA	Voting Member	1
Lawson, Stephen	COFA	Voting Member	1
Leonard, Tricia	COHP	Voting Member	1
LoCascio, Nicki	Honors/COS	Voting Member	1
McClure, Rex	COB	Voting Member	0
Sias, Jennifer	SOJMC	Voting Member	1
Silver, Judith	COS	Voting Member	1
Simonton, Scott	CITE	Voting Member	0
Swindell, Christopher	SOJMC	Voting Member	1
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. Minutes of the 3/1/13 meeting were approved.

2. Report on items discussed during last meeting:

    a. **Revision to CT Requirements** – Sherri Smith sent a document, which was viewed online, outlining some suggested changes that need to be made to the description of CT courses and also recommending a portal for requesting and evaluating them. The discussion was tabled until the May meeting. In the meantime, the document will be sent to the GEC email list.

    b. **Core II Course List** – Several obsolete and 300-level courses now appear on the auto-generated list of Core II courses. It was agreed that the obsolete courses pose no problem, and can be useful for evaluating transcripts of students who have been at

Marshall for several years. 300-level courses should not be listed because Core II is part of gen education, which is expected to be completed during the freshman and sophomore year. Core II courses also need to appear on the Core Transfer Agreement with other schools in West Virginia. (These are all 100 and 200-level courses.) Corley agreed to contact the deans and to ask that the 300 and 400-level courses be removed from Core II. The GEC Co-Chairs will provide him with a list of the courses to be removed.

c. **Recommendation on FYS** – Marty Laubach presented more details about the problems with FYS courses, and there was extended discussion. The problems that were brought up include the following: FYS is expensive to offer because the courses can only be taught by full-time faculty members, it takes professors out of their content area, there is wide variation in difficulty level, the guidelines have evolved until there are only reading and writing requirements, the number of freshman in each college does not proportionally represent the number of faculty members, and the university cannot afford to hire dedicated FYS faculty at this time. Corley Dennison informed the Council that the effectiveness of these courses will be assessed this summer, and he asked the Council to continue to discuss the issue and give recommendations.

3. New Course Approval Requests
   (See http://webcontent.marshall.edu/sites/general_ed_council/SitePages/Home.aspx.)

   a. ANT 472 (MC) – approved
   b. HON 480 (MC) – approved
   c. HP 400 (INTL) – approved

4. New Business

   a. **Attribute Approval for Special Topics Course** – In the past, special topics courses have been given attribute approval by the GEC Chair. It was agreed that they will be brought to the full Council in the future. If expedited approval is needed, the Bylaws already allow for courses to be approved by electronic vote.

   b. **Nominations for 2013-2014 GEC Chair** – Gretchen Beach was nominated for the position of GEC Co-Chair. Additional nominations will be accepted by the Co-Chairs through April 19, after which the list of nominees will be forwarded to Academic Affairs for approval.

   c. **Amendment to the Bylaws** -- The following amendment was approved by the Council and will appear as item III.D in the Bylaws: "The co-chairs shall serve two year terms. One co-chair shall be elected each year in order to preserve continuity, with nomination in April and election in May."

5. Next Meeting – Friday, May 3, 2013, 12:00 p.m.
   Drinko Library 349