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GenEd Committee Minutes 4.22.16 (faculty development and support related to GenEd)

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General Education Committee Meeting 4/22/16

Present: Melissa Berke, Denise Devney, Andrew Faltin, Karen Hein, Gerry Huber, Cara Ortega, Tammi Owens, Jill Russell, Deborah Smith-Howell, Rachel Tomcak

Discussion Items:

Summer Orientation

- Handout
 - Feedback during meeting on the handout: List both ENGL 1150 and 1154 for Composition I and both ENGL 1160 and 1164 for Composition II
 - Handout will again be provided for academic advisors to share with new students
- Gen Ed Presentation Volunteers Needed
 - Please review the sign-up sheet for available dates <http://goo.gl/adMiKM>
- Melissa reported that all faculty are invited to submit presentations for orientation sessions meant to give students an opportunity to interact with faculty
 - Subjects that would be beneficial for a broad audience of students
 - Denise will send out the link for faculty to submit their proposals
 - For those Gen Ed faculty who are already at an orientation session in the morning for the Gen Ed presentation, it could be possible to coordinate so they could also present their own specialized faculty presentation later that morning at the 11:00 breakout.
- PowerPoint
 - The group shared ideas on talking points we want to cover with new students regarding Gen Ed during our orientation session
 - We created an outline of the presentation and Melissa is updating the PowerPoint slides
 - Why is the presenter here? (Representing Gen Ed)
 - This is University-wide curriculum for all students
 - Link the presentation to the advising session students will take part in later in the day – they'll be enrolling later today
 - Purpose of Gen Ed – the foundation

- Employers' input/skills
- Emphasize that students will have some choices so take advantage of the variety of classes out there
- Encourage students to communicate with their advisors about their interests/what kinds of courses they are looking for so that they can be excited and engaged in their courses

Faculty Development/Support

- Center For Faculty Excellence and Academic Partnership for Instruction are merging (in process)
 - This group will be organizing these initiatives:
 - Building Gen Ed identity with faculty/high schools
 - Mini Forum for Gen Ed/Dual Enrollment instructors – assessment, importance of Gen Ed, faculty support/communication
 - Gen Ed Training Manual – explaining importance/purpose/rationale
 - Credential process for Dual Enrollment faculty
- Dual Enrollment meeting took place with Dual Enrollment staff and with quite a few deans/associate/assistant deans and chairs – Deb explained huge external demands on us for Dual Enrollment
- Faculty qualifications will be under review:
 - UNO is applying for an extension for qualifications for its Dual Enrollment faculty
 - By Fall 2017, we have to certify that we meet requirements for Gen Ed faculty – minimum of Master's degree in discipline or related discipline/Master's and 18 hours in discipline or related discipline/Articulated test of experience – Gen Ed group will need to discuss this last option for meeting requirements
 - Will have to create a way to catalog degrees, etc.
- New workload agreement should be coming soon
 - We will have to re-engineer how we do some of our workload so that we can keep track
- Part-time hiring processes
 - These will need to be reviewed
- These reviews/processes
- Our visit is Spring 2018

Common Learning Outcomes Draft

- Jill handed us the draft today
- Denise will send electronically

- Use track changes to provide input **by next meeting**; save with initials so we know who the suggestions came from – send your changes to Jill at jfrussell@unomaha.edu

Structure of Gen Ed

- In the process of creating a new Interdisciplinary Studies major, it has been found that they are the fourth “unit” that has expressed a concern about the structure of Gen Ed being too limiting (i.e. courses not being able to count as both humanities and social science)

Math General Education

- Deb met with Mary Dennison
- Would like to set up a meeting with the Math Department to discuss idea of generic Math Gen Ed equivalency

Next Meeting: Monday, May 9th 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. EAB 200