

WESTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY
General Education Committee Minutes

DATE: September 5, 2008
PLACE: Haas Library 2nd Floor
TIME: 9:00am-10:40am

MEMBERS PRESENT: D. Brown, R. Drozdenko, R. Flanagan (Chair), V. Kenausis,
P. Oneill, C. Rocca, A. Skar, L. Vaden-Goad, K. Walker,

Guests: Dr. L. Rinker, K. Allocco, L. Lindenauer

Appointment of recorder: D. Brown; V. Kenausis will not be taking minutes as
she will be the Webmaster

Meeting times: first Friday of every month at 9:00 am/ 9/5; 10/3; 11/7; 12/5;
2/6/09; 3/13 (an exception); 4/3; 5/1 in the Haas Library 2nd floor
Conference Room

Welcome new members and guests: Chuck Rocca and Alba Skar (new
members)/ Kate Allocco, Leslie Lindenauer and Dr. Linda Rinker (guests)

Minutes from May 2, 2008: deferred to October meeting

Community input and comments: none

Old business:

Update on FYE (P. O'Neill): this is year 2 of the FYE program/ preliminary report
re: Class 2011: retention rate for those who took one FYE course fall
'07 is about the same as the general population (70%); comparing FYE
and GPA, the results were positive and significant/ will try to pinpoint why

Patty is currently recruiting for FYE instructors/courses for spring '09

Issue/concern of some faculty:

- instructors report that they are not able to cover as much content in FY courses
- not getting the number of faculty volunteers needed
- ratio of PT to FT faculty
- increase work for the course
- academic freedom

- FT person would teach FY courses which tend to be lower level courses and adjuncts would be hired to teach major upper level courses
- faculty are finding it challenging to weave the success and university factors into the course without sacrificing content

New Business:

Women's Studies course: WS 200 (is not a new course)/ discussion took place/ course meets the Gen Ed requirements for Humanistic Studies/ motion to accept WS 200 as a gen ed requirement that could fulfill humanistic studies option (Rocco/Brown)/ motion passed unanimously

Gen Ed Conference in June attended by Dr. L. Vaden-Goad:
Information was distributed to members of the Gen Ed Comm.
Oklahoma State used as a prototype/ assessment is done through goal portfolios/ goals and issues are assessed and not faculty, course or students

Gen Ed will presently be assessed with MAPP, freshmen and seniors/ portfolio based assessments will be reviewed

Goals for 2008-2009:

- support FYE
- begin assessment of Gen Ed

Dr. Rinker thanked the Committee for the work that they have done and will support the committee as needed.

For October meeting:

- discuss what can be done to help faculty participate in the FYE program
- invite Chair of the Writing Department to attend and discuss criteria for WIC

Adjournment: 10:40am

Respectfully submitted,

Daryle L. Brown, Recorder