**General Education Committee: Minutes**

**Tuesday, April 1, 2014, 3:00 pm**

**Smith 118 Conference Room**

**Members Present:** DC Colt, *Health & Exercise Science*; James Leininger, *Mathematics*; Shanti Thomas, *English*; Dave Wegley, *Business;* Lorie Beckum, *Global Studies*

**Guest:** Susan Larson, *Nursing*

**Members Absent**: Earl Bland, *Behavioral Science & Counseling*; Nancy Damron, *Education*; Nancy Damron, *Education*; Mark Hayse, *Christian Ministry & Formation/Honor's Program*; Lauren Hays, *Learning Commons*; Janell Kellum, *Registrar;* no current member from *CGAL.*

**The meeting was rescheduled and several of the members had already committed to be somewhere else.**

**Call to Order by Dr. Peterson @ 3:10**

**Prayer**

**Old Business:** Minutes of the Feb. 20, 2014 meeting will stand as published unless there are changes. There were no voting items. The minutes are available in folder on Moodle.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

No voting proposals.

**ACADEMIC INFORMATION ITEM:**

Elementary Math Proposal (see Moodle) which would change the Gen Ed requirement for Elementary Ed Majors. This has not been considered by CLAS or Education – so it is coming as a preliminary information item for response only.

**Questions regarding this proposal from the committee:**

* **Does the lack of a course titled “Statistics” on the transcript impact students wishing to go to graduate school?**
* **What impact would it have on transfers who took a statistics course that previously met the gen ed?**
* **Need reassurance that this course will not be included on the CLAS gen ed as an option. Only for education majors in their gen ed.**

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

1. Continued look at philosophy for General Education at MNU. Look at further compilation of Gen Ed survey responses. Grouped by categories. Raw numbers only w/ comments. See Moodle for documents.

 Reminder of the original questions: ***Are we asking the right questions?***

* Are courses selected to give students a range of choice to meet outcomes, OR
* Are courses selected because we feel strongly there is foundational content that every student should have in the liberal arts – thus limiting the choices.
* ***Additional question posed by Grad and Adult Deans*: Is the General Education philosophy the same for all students? Does the Grad/Adult philosophy need to be specific for those populations? Outcomes based on undergrad – but tweaked to fit their goals?**

 2. Report on last meeting’s work time review 21st Century Skills/Knowledge and Kansas College & Career Ready Outcomes – did not specifically look at this document – however, did present a Generational breakdown of student types

 Can we answer these questions yet?

* Should MNU General Education Outcomes incorporate these elements?
* Are they already present but need emphasizing?
* What’s missing?

**Question from committee:**

* **How are we planning for the students in high schools who are earning an AA at the same time as their HS diploma?**

3. Impact of strategic planning on our work. Can draft our preliminary report – but think the planning documents will have some specific suggestions for our committee to consider.

 **Questions/suggestions regarding gen ed and strategic planning:**

* **See bold question under #1 above.**
* **What is the likelihood that the final strategic plan will “direct” additional outcomes for gen ed, i.e. global awareness, information/technological literacy, service?**
* **Gen ed committee suggestion (Susan Larson) that the process for determining what the gen ed for MNU should be take the same time-line as the strategic plan – 5 years.**
* **Linked courses may be part of the early changes for freshman.**
* **Competency/outcome based education instead of content/course education.**

4. Revisit discussion of Gen Ed Math class from previous meeting.

**Will consider this as a later meeting. No further changes to next year’s gen ed in math.**

There was no new business – but requests to take questions and comments to the Dean’s Cabinet meeting this week.

Next Meeting: Thur., April 17, 3:00 pm

**Adjournment at 4:00 pm**