# General Education Committee Minutes, 1/25/17

## Call to Order / Roll Call

Members present: L. Ametsbichler, S. Bradford, B. Clough, B. Durnell, K. Graham, C. Greenfield, J. Randall, T. Ravas, T. Wheeler, L. Yung

Members Absent/Excused: P. Muench; N. Lindsay - Ex officio, B. French – Ex officio

The minutes from 12/07/16 were approved.

## Communication Items

* Professor Graham was welcomed to the Committee and members introduced themselves. He is replacing Professor Fanning for the semester and has served on the General Education Committee before. Professor Weix has resigned from the Committee. It was noted that representation is needed from either the Natural or Physical Sciences. Professor Gregory Peters from Applied Arts in Sciences had expressed interest in serving on the last committee preference survey. Camie and Sue will follow up to see if he is still interested.
* There was no feedback from affected departments regarding the proposed revision to the Historical and Cultural Group. It will be voted on by ASCRC next week.
* Chair Bradford met with Interim Provost Beverly Edmond to discuss the work of the general education committee and plans to bring forward a proposal for general education assessment. Professor Weix, Faculty Senate Chair-elect Bowman, and Associate Provost Lindsay also attended the meeting. The subcommittee will meet next Wednesday to work on a draft proposal. Additional members are needed to help. Professor Ravas is able to attend the meeting.
* Chair Bradford provided an updated list of tentative priorities and briefly reviewed the items remaining from last fall.

## Business Items

* The following pending review items were approved. The instructors of LSH 416, NRSM 449, NRSM 489 are willing to move the courses to the 300 level. Rather than conditionally approve the courses pending level change, the courses were allowed to retain the designation with the understanding that they will submit paperwork in the normal timeline to change the course levels. This will give the programs time to update advising documents. The following courses were approved:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| NRSM 370 | Wildland Conservation Policy & Gov. | Social Sciences |
| LSH 416 | Talking to God: Bhagavad Gita | Ethics and Human Values |
| NRSM 449 | Climate Change Ethics and Policy | Ethics and Human Values |
| NRSM 489 | Conservation & Forestry Ethics | Ethics and Human Values |
| LIT 230 | Literary Histories: Atlantic Passages | Literary and Artistic Studies |
| LIT 240 | Genres, Themes, Approaches | Literary and Artistic Studies |

Follow-up responses are still pending or under review for 6 additional courses. One of these is a course that was submitted for the old X category and then revised for the new X category. The subcommittee needs more faculty from Group X to help with this. Professors Graham and Randall offered to help. Chair Bradford will coordinate with Professor Yung to follow up with the review subcommittee.

* The Committee revisited the issue of acceptable criteria for upper-division general education courses. After some discussion, the committee proposed to update the language on the General Education Form to clarify when and what type of justification is needed for exceptions. After some preliminary group edits, the following working DRAFT was tabled for follow-up editing via email:

 JUSTIFICATION FOR EXCEPTIONSNormally, general education courses do not have more than one pre-requisite, are at least 3 credits, and numbered at the 100-300 level. If the course does not meet these conditions please explain. If the course is offered at the 400-level please explain how it is foundational within the perspective.

## Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:36 p.m.