

General Education Council Meeting

Minutes

November 19, 2014

Members Present: Byron Brown, Jeremy Tost, Gayle Taylor, Mark Smith, Lai Orenduff

Members Absent: Jane Kinney, Catherine Schaeffer

Guests: Michael Black, Donna Gosnell

1. Approval of Minutes from October 13, 2014- Passed
2. Old Business: Proposed Video on the Core – After discussion of this video project by Deb Robson and Mike Savoie, it was decided that the comments included in their survey would not add to or improve the SWOT analysis submitted by the AREA A-E subcommittees.
3. Guest: **Dr. Donna Gosnell**, Department of Chemistry- This one of the innovative approaches for student success our Chemistry Department is doing.

Dr. Donna Gosnell talked about CHEM 1200, a course designed to help students prepare for General Chemistry courses. The Chemistry Department recognized the reality that many of our students were not prepared to take college-level Chemistry courses. The DF rate in beginning Chemistry classes was consistently high. A Chemistry placement exam is required at the Testing Center for incoming students, and the department decided to develop a course to help those students who had a low score. This course was created by the department under Dr. Gosnell's leadership. This course would meet twice a week for a lecture and would also include a 1-hour recitation (problem-solving) meeting in the labs on Friday (total of 3 meetings per week). This extra hands-on experience would help the students understand basic fundamental chemistry principles. The goal was to help students perform the mathematical operations and dimensional analysis that are fundamental to solving chemical problems.

4. Comprehensive Program Review

Michael Black talked to the Council about the assessment tool selected for the Comprehensive Program Review for this cycle. A SWOT Analysis was selected. This type of assessment allows members of the AREA subcommittees to reflect on the data and their own experiences with the programs included in the Core. This assessment tool allows a documentation that encourages further discussion for action steps. Each member was requested to select 5 or 6 action-steps from the total list submitted in the Comprehensive Program Review that they thought merited further discussion and implementation.

5. Meeting adjourned at 4PM.
6. **Next meeting: January 7th, 3-4PM Nevins 1060**