

CAB MEETING MINUTES – November 17, 2014

Meeting called to order 9:05 am

1. Announcements:

- a. Reminder to send in WI courses to Chris Fosen
- b. Chris asks if anyone knows about the **New Paradigms and Pathways in GE**. It is a culminating event under the Compass project; GE at Chico is somewhat of a model
 - February 12-14 in Sacramento—Thursday, Friday, Saturday
 - Early registration ends on December 12
 - Poster deadline is already past
- c. Substitutions: Completed table with all substitution approvals provided

2. Minutes from October 20 2014 updated and approved without edits.

3. Minutes from November 3 2014 updated and approved without edits.

4. WASC Written/Oral Communication Assessment Workshop Report

- What WASC wants (“at or near graduation”) and our GE program assessment goals aren’t exactly the same
- Qualitative approaches can work
- Chris/Kent will write up Oral and Written Communication reports and present to the campus community
- Oral communication is logistically challenging – IT can help

5. EO 1065 Revision

It appears EO 1065 will be modified to require a “C” (rather than C-minus) for area A GE courses. This will necessitate a change of policy on our campus. Opinions:

- Creates two different standards for different grading systems: “C” work is different from “C-minus” work here but at community colleges (no +/-) both “C” work and “C-minus” work get a “C” and have completed the requirement.
- Raising the bar to “C” could improve student effort.
- Most other CSU’s establish a C already in Area A.
- For example: ENGL 130 would now require a “C” to be considered complete. WP courses require a “C-minus” in ENGL 130 – that policy may need to be changed.
- C-minus is a repeatable grade; C is not.
- EPPC will have to consider this. CAB’s opinion should be offered.
- Not a lot of consultation with faculty.
- CAB will not express a common opinion until it sees the policy—wait until the thing comes out and just get in line (Bill)

6. PHIL 207 – Approval of Revised syllabus

Philosophy 207 was provisionally accepted in Area E in STV pending review of revised syllabus in April 2014. There were issues even with the revised syllabus. A 'fixed' revised syllabus will be requested from PHIL, forwarded to CAB members, and an on-line vote taken in the interest of time.

Notes post-meeting: the 'revised' syllabus we had been considering was an incorrect draft. The correct draft and a brief rationale was provided to Nichols and forwarded to CAB on Nov 17. Subsequent e-mail votes were 10 in favor and none opposed. With 19 voting members in CAB, this constitutes a majority, and K. Maas was informed that CAB had approved the addition of PHIL 207 into GE.

7. Workshop: Wicked Problems to build cohesion in GE.

- New Date/Time: Saturday December 6 9-1 p.m. in BMU 211
- Hoping for 16 people
- Integrate courses with community colleges

8. Assessment Committee Progress reports

a. Diversity--LaDona

- Has only one person (Vince)
- Sent out request to do pre-test—got 1200 responses
- Post test by end of semester. Asked if it had to be same people? No.
- Two qualitative questions—can take a sample (10%)—random stratified sample
- Would like to be done by first part of January
- The data is still valid without “matching” pre-test and post-test responses from individual students (e.g. it's OK to compare current freshmen to current seniors)

b. Active Inquiry

- a. We don't have a team member
- b. Sent email to faculty letting them know a survey will be sent out
- c. Based on Kevin's information literacy survey. It will be sent to All UD courses with AI as a listed SLO.
- d. Concern expressed about extra-credit —students may have different behaviors. This is valid, but we can in fact track students by course sections; could control for this later. Also noted that we can't control for everything.

c. Math Reasoning:

- a. Met last Friday. Have two members from faculty and three from CAB who are participating. Met and had a discussion on where they are going to look for more information.
- b. We have only 31 courses, and of these only 4 capstones, that have quantitative reasoning. So using capstones might not work for this SLO

d. Creativity

- a. Kent is helping; currently there are no other volunteers.
- b. Creative thinking cannot do pre and post-test—one semester is not realistic. Can differentiate between first year and seniors? The tests are about 30 minutes
- c. Academy E Learning is focused on creativity this year.

- e. Personal and Social Responsibility
 - a. Pre and Post-test in Spring; five minute survey. 87 classes/sections.
 - b. Contacting all professors now. Will hear from them again in January. Send questions electronically; Scantrons to do these in classes. Getting questions from PSRI
 - c. Possibly establish a longitudinal survey because many people completed it last year. Bill questions the scantron because you cannot do Excel spreadsheets (have to enter by hand)

9. WI/Capstone Policies—report (Nichols) and discussion

- a. Nichols, Loker, Armitage, DuFour met with Jean Irving to discuss issues related to WI/C Courses. Some of the issues were:
 - i. Demand for WI/C exceeds supply
 - ii. Some students are being misinformed about how courses count (sections with and without I/Z
 - iii. Some reports of faculty not understanding the differences between WI/C sections and non-Wi/C sections, especially when they are teaching a new prep
 - iv. Nichols is going to send a message to all instructors in spring and winter who are teaching non-WI and non-capstone versions of WI/C courses; put it in syllabus so students will know
 - v. Cannot put negative flag (e.g. “This is not a WI course”) on registration information.
 - vi. For the sake of advising, it would be better if all sections of C/WI courses were C/Wi’s
- b. Noted that for HFA the splitting of WI/S designations by section was not presented as temporary or transitory. Note that when departments submitted courses for the GE redesign, there was no splitting of WI/C by section – but that was added later (after the WI/C cap had been set at 20) to avoid departments withdrawing those courses from the program.
- c. The system is broken; faculty, students do not understand it; people are thinking they are graduating, and there will be all kinds of requests for exceptions. There was a lot of discussion at CAD about this problem.
- d. There are many disincentives to departments to have Wi/C sections: GE courses are not funded as much; LD, UD are funded differently; Major courses funded more highly. If those remain in place then system is not fixable.
- e. Maybe two WP in departments—transfer the burden to majors and away from GE?.
- f. Our students are getting “killed” on job market due to substandard writing ability, according to business school faculty.

10. Meeting Schedule for next semester

Will send a Doodle poll.

LaDona needs to find a substitute STV Pathway coordinator for Spring 2015

11. Other

Scheduled meeting on December 1 2014 cancelled. Meeting rescheduled for December 8 2014

12. Adjourned at 10:30am