

Minutes: University General Education Committee Meeting
December 5, 2018
4 p.m.
HCC 307

Present: Nicole Crowder (CAS; chair), Brooke DiLauro (CAS), Lance Gentry (CoB), Chris Musina (CAS; secretary), Kelly Perkins (CAS), Farhang Rouhani (CAS), Marie Sheckels (CoE), Debra Schleef (ex officio), Rita Dunston (ex officio), John Morello (ex officio), Brian Ogle (ex officio), Tim O'Donnell (ex officio), Jessica Machado (guest)

Meeting Began: 4:09pm

1. Minutes from November 19, 2018
Approved as submitted.
2. Discussion of request from ODR – Jessica Machado, guest

Jessica Machado from the Office of Disability Resources spoke with the committee about a request to extend the second language substitution process to, or to consider requests from, students with non-language based learning disabilities. She spoke of the second language substitution process, how they deal with that in their office and how they make approvals, as well as highlighted the issues some of our students face and shared ODR's thoughts and suggestions. The substitution exists for students with specific disabilities that hold back language skills, and typically those students are approved. They evaluate students and review in depth that evaluation.

The issue brought to the committee is with students not getting approved for language based disorders, but ADHD and other such disabilities. These students feel they are hitting a wall because they are juniors or seniors, but they cannot be approved because their issue is not disability related. Many students take courses at a community college then transfer in, and maybe there is a gap in expectation and teaching style.

It was noted that in the last year 35 students have requested the accommodation, and 21 were not approved, as they were not able to show that support for related reasons. It does not seem to be a trend, and numbers are pretty steady. Though there are more and more students with disabilities in general, so any gains would correlate with this.

The committee wanted to know more specifics. Jessica Machado noted that other universities have a petition process, and the committee asked her to furnish examples of those processes for a future discussion. The committee, followed her visit with brief discussion but will pick this back up in the next semester.

3. Discussion of feedback various constituents and UFC meeting

The Committee discussed departmental and faculty responses on the Gen Ed process, and the UFC meeting from the week previous. We looked into the various responses, agreements and disagreements from dept. to dept. Upon discussion we decided that we should come down on the issue of big change or tweaks as a committee. The other issue to consider as we move forward is the connection with the strategic vision. The committee added more aspirational and COPLAC schools to the Gen Ed comparison.

4. Plans/assignments for over break

The committee discussed plans and assignments over break. We're supposed to present our plan on the 30th of Jan. The committee decided to meet one more time this calendar year, on Friday the 14th to work out what we feel needs to be in the Gen Eds based on the statistics, the vision statement and what we've discussed this semester.

Meeting Adjourned: 5:29pm