

**UNC GREENSBORO**  
**GENERAL EDUCATION COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES**  
**Friday, January 7, 2022**  
**2:00 PM • Virtual Meeting**

Members Present: Amy Harris Houk, Bruce Banks, Angela Bolte (for Omar Ali), Della Hawes (for Lisa Henline), Sara MacSween, Jessica McCall, Jodi Pettazzoni, Dana Saunders, Jennifer Stephens, Terry Wicks, Jonathan Zarecki

**AGENDA ITEMS:**

**I. Approval of Minutes from December 17, 2021, meeting**

Motion to approve December 17, 2021, meeting minutes (Zarecki, MacSween). Minutes approved.

**II. MAC Petitions for Transfer Credit**

*Approval of petition would grant a universal equivalency*

- MT/10445 Petition for Transfer Credit: Request to allow PHIL 213 to satisfy MAC Oral Communication competency  
Motion to approve (MacSween, Zarecki), motion Approved

**III. Advisor Appeals for General Education Substitutions**

- AL/61384 Advisor Appeal: Request to allow ARH 110 to satisfy MAC Diversity & Equity through the Humanities and Fine Arts OR through the Social & Behavioral Sciences competency  
Motion to reject (MacSween, Wicks), course does not align with Diversity & Equity competency, motion approved.
- BT/61375 Advisor Appeal: Request to allow HEA 260 to satisfy MAC Critical Thinking and Inquiry in the Natural Sciences competency  
Motion to reject (Zarecki, MacSween), no rationale provided, motion approved.
- MC/61516 Advisor Appeal: Request to allow THR 400 to satisfy GEC WI marker  
Motion to reject (Zarecki, MacSween), course was not delivered with WI requirements, motion approved.

#### **IV. MAC Course Proposals**

- CCI 216 The Seven Wonders of the Ancient World  
MAC request: Oral Communication
- CCI 225 Speaking of Murder: Greek Tragedy in Performance  
MAC request: Oral Communication
- ENG 115 Literature Off the Page  
MAC request: Oral Communication
- ENG 123 Speaking Out for Change: Advocacy Communication Across Contexts  
MAC request: Oral Communication
- PHI 202 Arguing About...  
MAC request: Oral Communication (updates received)  
Motion to approve with revisions (MacSween, Banks). Motion approved.
- THR 130 Actors and Acting: Simple Actions to Superheroes  
MAC request: Oral Communication
- THR 135 The Business of Entertainment: Broadway to Hollywood  
MAC request: Oral Communication

Chair reported that updates for pending Oral Communication proposals should be in by the end of February. Additional support is needed to assist faculty with the development of Oral and Written Communication courses. It was noted that Faculty Fellows were meant to provide this type of support.

Suggested questions for Oral Communication courses:

- What is the number of debates and presentations per student?
- What is the length of debate/presentation?
- How are students instructed on different types of speech?
- How do students receive feedback on their work and on what timeline is it given?

It was suggested that Council develop checklists of expectations for all MAC competencies.

#### **IV. Assessment update**

Jodi reported that assessment documents were returned after fall 2021 for the Foundations, Health & Wellness, and Data Analysis competencies. Invitations to participate in the spring assessment of Diversity & Equity, Written Communication and Oral Communication competencies should go out in the next week.

A single workshop will be held in May for all six competencies assessed this year. Invitations asking faculty to participate will go out soon.

Jodi also shared that UNCG was approved for “differentiated review” for its SACSCOC reaffirmation. This means the university only needs to address 40 of the SACSCOC standards (the Gen Ed standard is not one of them). The assessment process is going on now if solely for the purpose of reviewing the MAC for our internal improvement processes, which is important.

#### **V. MAC Integration in the major**

A fundamental part of the MAC implementation that was approved by the Faculty Senate in October 2019 was the integration of the competencies into upper-level courses in the major where appropriate. Not all competencies fit all majors, and there is an expectation that programs would explain those competencies that do not fit. However, the MAC presents just foundational learning, and the competencies should be developed so that students achieve closer to mastery of them in their required major courses. To fully implement the MAC’s purpose, we need to engage program faculty in identifying the competencies that are reinforced in their majors, and that needs to happen now. Program revisions should be completed in fall 2022, if they are necessary. Program text for the catalog should also be updated for fall 2023. The IC will take the lead in engaging faculty in this process.

#### **VI. Announcements/Other Items**

Chair shared that the University Libraries want to expand the Open Educational Resources mini-grant program to reduce costs of textbooks for MAC and high DFW courses. The aspirational goal is for MAC to have zero textbook costs. Discussion followed; it is understood that not all faculty will participate. There are three levels:

- Faculty will apply for stipends to research how to replace costly texts in their courses
- Faculty will revise their courses
- Faculty will develop open-source materials

Application process will start in February/March.

Question asked about requiring students to complete MAC in a certain time frame (possibly first 45 credits). Chair will forward the question to the IC.

Jodi shared that Amy has a new title, Assistant Dean for Teaching and Learning for Jackson Library.