

**ASU TEMPE GENERAL STUDIES COUNCIL**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
Tuesday, February 23, 2010  
3:00–5:00 p.m.  
Ira A. Fulton Foundation Center – 2nd floor- room 2490

Present: Craig Allen, Debra Campbell, John Chance, Ron Dorn, Barbara Fargotstein, Cecelia Fiery, Antonio Garcia, Chouki El Hamel, Bernard Kobes, Matthew Isom –Chair, Barbara Lafford, Phyllis Lucie, Tom Martin, Ron Roedel, Doug Spencer, Mike Tueller, Sergio Quiros, Kathy Wigal

Excused: Rebecca Barry, Alejandra Elenes, Matthias Kawski, Kristin LaCroix, Peter de Marneffe, Eduardo Pagan, Helene Ossipov, Jeff Ricker, Joe Rody

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m.

**2. Approval of Minutes—November 24, 2009**

The minutes were approved as written.

**3. Announcements**

None

**4. Old Business**

None

**5. New Business**

Vice Provost, John Hepburn introduced himself to the GSC, informing the council that he is available if general studies concerns arise.

## 6. Subcommittee Reports

### A) Literacy & Critical Inquiry (Barbara Fargotstein)

From ASU

Approved to retain L designation, (mandatory review):

WST 498 Pro Seminar

### B) Mathematical Studies (MA)/(CS)

No report

### C) Humanities, Fine Arts & Design (HU) (Kristin LaCroix)

From MCCCCD

Approved to retain HU designation (mandatory review):

HUM 108 Contemporary Humanities

### D) Social and Behavioral Sciences (Rebecca Barry)

From ASU

Approved for SB designation effective Fall 2009 (new):

NLM 160 Voluntary Action and Community Service

From MCCCCD – APPROVE

SOC 251 Social Problems

From MCCCCD – Deny

HES 201 Substance Abuse and Behavior

Rationale: This seems more of a health/medicine/nursing course, perhaps more of a “professional skills” course than can be accepted at the General Studies level. Of the 13 course objectives, only 3 have anything to do with “social” or “behavioral” or “language” (#2, #3, and #5). Of the 18 chapters in the textbook, only 3 appear to deal unambiguously with social and behavioral science. This seems like a very interesting and valuable course, but the emphasis on body systems and pharmacology precludes it from qualifying as an SB General Studies course. The application also lacks a signature by a chair or director.

### E) Natural Sciences (SQ/SG) (Ron Dorn)

LSC 294 Special Topics: Dinosaurs

The Natural Sciences Subcommittee **approves** the Dinosaur omnibus class (LSC 294 Special Topics: Dinosaurs), approving just this omnibus version -- but wanting to see more flushed-out lab material when the course gets a permanent number. It looks like a fun class and a great way to meet SG for students. Thus, this approval is just for the omnibus version and they must resubmit more detailed laboratory information when they receive a permanent number.

**From ASU**

DENIED: For Mandatory Review

ASM 452 Dental Anthropology (Mandatory Review) is a 400-level course that is also taken by graduate students on Dental Anthropology.

Rationale: This course does not meet the requirement of criteria #8: "8. Course is general or introductory in nature, ordinarily at lower-division level; not a course with great depth or specificity." In fact, the person submitting the application agrees. 8 is checked "no". According to the general studies approved guidelines for SG, All of the 8 criteria must be checked.

The whole idea of general studies is that the courses can be taken at the lower division level, allowing students to explore their intellectual curiosity and opening doors to disciplines. Thus, this course should not receive general studies status.

**F) Cultural Diversity in the United States (Barbara Lafford)**

**From ASU**

**Approved for C designation, effective Fall 2010 (new):**

WSH 385 American Indian Women

**From MCCC - Deny**

PSY 225 The Psychology of Religion

Rationale: This is a course that deals mostly with the development of diverse religious beliefs as part of the human experience. It gives a brief survey of most of the world's major religious traditions (e.g., Buddhism, Hinduism, Taoism, Confucianism, Christianity, indigenous religions) and treats issues dealing with minority religions in various parts of the globe. It only briefly touches on religious traditions of minority groups in the US (e.g., Santos of the Mexico-USA borderlands for one class and Mescalero Indigenous culture in New Mexico for one class) and, for the most part, does not focus on the experience of religion by ethnic, racial, gender and linguistic minority groups in the USA.

**G) Global Awareness (Debra Campbell)**

From ASU

Approve for G designation, retroactive effective Spring 2010 (new):

JUS 325 Globalization and Socio-Economic Justice

**H) Historical Awareness (Jeffry Ricker)**

None

**7. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Submitted by Phyllis Lucie