Change in UGEC Name & Function

REPORT FOR THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

University Senate Committee:
University General Education Committee change of Name and revision of function

Brief History of Issue - why the issue is being considered:
The University is in the midst of a major effort to revise our general education program to facilitate four-year graduation rates through updating the curriculum to align with the university learning goals and simplifying the requirements for graduation. Also, the Senate chair requested the committee consider the issues as part of a university-wide effort to reduce duplication of effort and ensure that existing committees are in line with the FASH.

Points Discussed by Committee:

Name change: University Liberal Education Committee

Substitute this language for old:
The University Liberal Education Committee is responsible for criteria and intended learning outcomes for the liberal education program, and serves as the coordinating body for university liberal education reform efforts. The committee is responsible for periodic review of university graduation requirements; development of criteria for inclusion of courses and high impact practices in the liberal education core; periodic review of existing components of the liberal education core for re-approval; working with the Office of Academic Affairs to annually evaluate liberal education course and program availability and effectiveness in achieving the liberal education goals as passed by the University Senate.

Pros of Recommendation:
Accomplishes alignment with UWEC Strategic Plan & Gold Arrows on reform of curriculum and reflects the emphasis on “Liberal Education”; complies with memo from Susan Harrison, Senate Chair (June 3, 2010); provides for a coordinating body that will preserve/respect faculty governance in managing GE reform efforts.

Cons of Recommendation:
1) Slight ‘con’ in that “Liberal Education” may be perceived by some students and community members as referring to political agendas rather than the actual meaning of the word “liberal” in the context of education.

   2) See next item.

Technology/Human Resource Impact:
Increases on-going work load of the committee

Committee Recommendation:
Adopt changes as outlined above
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MOTION FOR THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

The University General Education Committee (under the umbrella of University Senate):

by a vote of 9 for to 0 against on August 23, 2010 (Date)

Recommends that changes be made to the Faculty and Academic Staff Rules and Procedures, Part III: Bylaws of the University Faculty and University Academic Staff, Article One: University Faculty, Section D – Committee Organization, item 5 – University General Education Committee as shown.

5. University General Liberal Education Committee
   a. Membership:
   ...
   b. Function: The University General Liberal Education Committee is responsible for recommending criteria for General Education courses and developing the purposes and intended learning outcomes for general the liberal education program, and serves as the coordinating body for university liberal education reform efforts. The criteria, purposes, and intended learning outcomes will be forwarded to the University Senate Academic Policies Committee and the University Senate for approval. The Committee is responsible for periodic review of university graduation requirements; development of criteria for inclusion of courses and high impact practices in the liberal education core; approving courses for inclusion in the General Education Program, periodically reviewing of existing components of the liberal general education core courses for re-approval; yearly review of UW-Eau Claire catalog copy regarding general education, and; working with the Office of Academic Affairs to annually evaluate the GE program's liberal education course and program availability and, using information from the Plan for Assessment of Student Academic Achievement, periodically evaluate the GE program's effectiveness against the General in achieving the liberal education goals as passed by the University Senate. (US 3/05, 9/10)

Implementation Date:
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Signed: 

Chair of the Committee

Send to: University Senate Office