

Diversity Curriculum Committee Notes of Discussion

February 22, 2021 – 10:30am-noon, via Zoom

Meeting called by: Chris Paige, Chair
Type of meeting: Diversity Curriculum Committee
Facilitator: Chris Paige
Note taker: Barbara Branton

Voting members: Christopher Paige, Ari Burford, Darwin Mann, Debra Edgerton, David Camacho, John Heick, Gretchen McAllister, Gina Nabours,

Non-Voting members: Melinda Trembl, Jeff Berglund, Teresa Del Vecchio, Tarang Jain,

Excused: Okim Kang, Rosie Cordova, Rachel Cox,

Guests:

Topic	Discussion
Welcome	Christopher Paige serving as chair. Call to Order. Quorum was present.
Approval of Notes of Discussion	Dr. Ari moved, D. Edgerton seconded, and the notes of February 8, 2021 were approved as amended to include sexuality and race under Dimensions of Difference.
Process Calendar	The process calendar developed by the 3 committees' leadership outlines the steps by week on what needs to be accomplished and the anticipated meetings for moving the final general education proposal to the Faculty Senate for approval in April. It notes that the three committees will meet jointly in March for a final discussion and vote by individual committee. This joint meeting will allow the last edits to be made together and will close the loop on back-and-forth edits as the proposal moves through the 3 committees. A joint meeting of all 3 committees is expected on March 12. Committee membership was raised again. The only vacant seat is CEIAS.
Commission for Native Americans letter	The committee reviewed the letter from the Commission for Native Americans. The letter outlined their support for two options. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Option 1: 9 credits, requiring 3 credits for Indigenous Peoples (IP) category and then 6 credits from the remaining 3 categories.• Option 2: 12 credits, a course from each of the 4 categories This letter was also discussed at the special meeting of the Diversity Curriculum Committee on February 15. While there was a quorum at the February 15 special meeting of the DCC, there was not a majority vote and this item needs further discussion. Following discussions with the LSC and the UUC, Option 2 is viewed more as aspirational and least resource neutral as new curriculum would need to be developed along with possible hiring to provide adequate seats for the Fall 2022 term. Members pointed out that all the IP courses would not have to come from the Applied Indigenous Studies program. Other departments/colleges could

	<p>provide courses as well. While there is concern associated with Option 2, there is a belief that selecting this option could push the institution toward meeting its strategic goal #3.</p> <p>The committee is mindful that curriculum is faculty driven. While it is unlikely that NAU will receive new resources, the administration is able to reallocate resources to support the curriculum the faculty approves. The addition of two new categories under the diversity designation driven by faculty in multiple colleges. When the administration notes this is not one department, one college, they may be more apt to consider reallocating resources. Approval of the Gen Ed Program proposal by the Faculty Senate is a recommendation to the Provost. This is the same for all curriculum changes. Capacity is an issue in light of the May 2020 terminations of faculty. Shifting away from the existing requirement for US Ethnic and Global Diversity courses is a concern. Capacity exists for those two categories but if students are given the option to choose, will their choices affect the faculty hires in those areas? A course census will be conducted. Upon completion, it may show that courses in one diversity designation may move to one of the two new categories. This could affect existing capacity. Concern about hires was expressed multiple times, including lost tenure track faculty that were not replaced.</p> <p>ABOR has taken an interest in general studies. Perhaps with that interest will come support for the broader program and the opportunity to develop curriculum in several of the new knowledge areas. To accomplish the changes to the diversity categories as well as changes to the whole program, all academic units at NAU will need to participate. Some of the implementation may need to be phased in. Adoption of the IP category should position NAU to deliver on intercultural competencies.</p> <p>Comments of hope for change based on Dr. Cruz's Friday forum concluded the discussion.</p>
Global Languages & Cultures (GL&C) proposal	<p>GL&C brought forth a proposal outlining how their courses align with both SPW and A/H in the new general education program. Many of the 1-200 level courses will transition to SPW. They also explained that introductory language courses no longer take the drilling/congregating approaches they did some 20 years ago. NAU's language program teaches to "5 C's", culture being one of those.</p>
Wrap-up - Good of the order	<p>Members did not vote on the options presented and will seek input from the faculty forums this week.</p>
Adjourned	<p>The meeting adjourned at 12:01pm.</p>