

# MISSOURI WESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY

## Governance Advisory Council Report 2010-2011

May 24, 2011

Volume 35, No. 5

### GOVERNANCE ADVISORY COUNCIL

May 17, 2011

Member Attendees: Dr. Jeanne Daffron, Dr. Jim Bargar, Dr. Brenda Blessing, Dr. Brian Cronk, Dan Eckhoff, Tim Kisson, Dr. Greg Lindsteadt, Dr. Gordon Mapley, Dr. Murray Nabors, Dr. Philip Nitse, Alison Norris, Dr. Esther Perález, Sally Sanders, Jacob Scott

Other Attendees: Rick Gilmore, Peter Gregory, Dr. Cindy Heider, Dr. Britt Johnson, Tracy Sharp, David Tushaus, Beth Wheeler

#### GAC #10-15 – General Studies Changes

**Source of Proposal:** General Studies Committee

**Purpose of Proposal:** Policy Revision/For Information

#### Current Policy or Procedure:

Page 38 of the Undergraduate Catalog, under General Studies Requirements for Bachelor Degrees (Categories Three and Four) and all Major/Minor Forms

#### Category Three – Social Sciences 9

Select 9 hours with at least one course from each of the two following groups:

1. PSY 101 General Psychology (3) OR
- SOC 110 Introduction to Sociology (3) OR
- SOC 120 General Anthropology (3) OR
- GEO 100 World Geography (3) OR
- ECO 101 Current Issues in the Economy (3) OR
- ECO 260 Principles of Macroeconomics (3) OR
- ECO 261 Principles of Microeconomics (3)
2. HIS 140 American History to 1865 (3) OR
- HIS 150 American History since 1865 (3) OR
- PSC 101 American National Government (3)

#### Category Four – Humanities 9

Select one course each from three of the following groups:

1. HIS 200 Ancient and Medieval Civilization (3) OR
- HIS 210 Early Modern Civilization (3) OR
- HIS 230 Modern Europe: 1789 to the Present (3) OR
- HUM 203 Humanities: Ancient and Medieval (3) OR

	HUM 204 Humanities: Middle Ages to the French Revolution (3)	OR
	HUM 205 Humanities: American Revolution to the Present (3)	
2.	ENG 210 Approaches to Literature (3)	OR
	ENG 220 Introduction to Reading Texts (3)	OR
	PHL 210 Introduction to Philosophy (3)	OR
	PHL 230 Ethics (3)	OR
	HUM 250 Comparative Religious (3)	
3.	ART 100 Introduction to Art (3)	OR
	MUS 101 Perspectives in Music (3)	OR
	THR 113 Introduction to Theatre (3)	
4.	FRE 100 Elementary French I (3)	OR
	GER 100 Elementary German I (3)	OR
	SPA 100 Elementary Spanish I (3)	OR
	Any higher level 3-credit hour language course	

### Proposed Policy or Procedure:

1. Remove HUM 250 from Category Four –Humanities, Line 2.  
Add REL 250, REL 251, and REL 252 to Category Four – Humanities, Line 2.

Reasoning: HUM 250 (Comparative Religions) currently covers a wide range of topics. Instructors typically emphasize one of three regions (eastern, western, and southern) during the semester. This proposal breaks HUM 250 into three separate courses, so that the instructor can focus on one area in more depth. Each of the proposed courses will meet the same general studies objectives as the original course.

2. Add LAT 101 to Category Three – Social Sciences, Line 2

Reasoning: LAT 101 offers students a different prospective to studying the Missouri and US Constitutions and legal system. This course meets the same general studies objectives as the other courses in Category Three, Line 2

3. Remove SPA 100, FRE 100, and GER 100 from Category Four – Humanities, Line 4.  
Change wording for Category Four – Humanities, Line 4.

Reasoning: The current program only allows credit for the three foreign language courses currently taught at MWSU (Spanish, French, and German). In practice, students have been allowed to transfer in other language courses to meet the General Studies Requirement. As opportunities present themselves, the foreign language discipline would like to offer additional language courses (such as Chinese). This change will bring the policy into alignment with current transfer practice and enable students to receive General Studies credit for new foreign language courses.

Changes are to be effective beginning Fall 2012. The changes should appear as listed below beginning in the 2012-2013 Undergraduate Catalog and all 2012-2013 Major/Minor Forms.

Page 38 of the Undergraduate Catalog, under General Studies Requirements for Bachelor Degrees (Categories Three and Four)

**Category Three – Social Sciences** 9

Select 9 hours with at least one course from each of the two following groups:

1. PSY 101 General Psychology (3) OR
- SOC 110 Introduction to Sociology (3) OR
- SOC 120 General Anthropology (3) OR
- GEO 100 World Geography (3) OR
- ECO 101 Current Issues in the Economy (3) OR
- ECO 260 Principles of Macroeconomics (3) OR
- ECO 261 Principles of Microeconomics (3)
2. HIS 140 American History to 1865 (3) OR
- HIS 150 American History since 1865 (3) OR
- PSC 101 American National Government (3) OR
- LAT 101 Introduction to Law (3)

**Category Four – Humanities** 9

Select one course each from three of the following groups:

1. HIS 200 Ancient and Medieval Civilization (3) OR
- HIS 210 Early Modern Civilization (3) OR
- HIS 230 Modern Europe: 1789 to the Present (3) OR
- HUM 203 Humanities: Ancient and Medieval (3) OR
- HUM 204 Humanities: Middle Ages to the French Revolution (3) OR
- HUM 205 Humanities: American Revolution to the Present (3)
2. ENG 210 Approaches to Literature (3) OR
- ENG 220 Introduction to Reading Texts (3) OR
- PHL 210 Introduction to Philosophy (3) OR
- PHL 230 Ethics (3) OR
- REL 250 Comparative Religions – Eastern Traditions (3) OR
- REL 251 Comparative Religions – Western Traditions (3) OR
- REL 252 Comparative Religions – Southern Traditions (3)
3. ART 100 Introduction to Art (3) OR
- MUS 101 Perspectives in Music (3) OR
- THR 113 Introduction to Theatre (3)
4. Any 3-credit hour 100-level or higher foreign language course

**GAC Summary:**

The Council agreed to forward proposals #1 and #3 for the President's approval. Discussion was held regarding proposal #2. Dr. Bargar noted that the General Studies Committee voted to approve the proposal, but the Faculty Senate voted to reject the proposal. He recommended that the proposal be sent back to Faculty Senate for further discussion and a determination if this course fits with the social science group or one of the other categories.

Comments from student representatives asked for a definition of social science and indicated they would like to see the course offered as a general studies course to give students a broader foundation.

GAC asked for the proposal to be resubmitted for the November 2011 Governance Advisory Council meeting so that the decision on the proposal can be finalized by the end of this general studies cycle.

The Governance Advisory Council forwards #1 and #3 for approval and recommends sending #2 back to Faculty Senate with the above charges as noted in discussion at the meeting.

**Presidential Action:** This proposal was signed by the President on May 24, 2011.

### **GAC #10-16 – University Benefits Committee**

**Source of Proposal:** Human Resources

**Purpose of Proposal:** Policy Revision/For Information

**Current Policy or Procedure:** No current policy.

**Proposed Policy or Procedure:** University Benefits Committee

The Missouri Western State University Benefits Committee, appointed by the President, is established to serve as an advisory resource in the analysis of existing and proposed benefits for the Missouri Western employee group. Final decision making regarding plan design, plan structure and vendor selection rests with the Administration in consideration of the fiscal impact on the University.

In order to preserve continuity of membership on the committee some members will serve as standing members on the committee; others will change as leadership positions change with constituent groups. Representative members on the committee are recommended as:

Faculty – 2 representatives – Fringe Benefits Committee Chair and 1 Standing Member (appointed by the President)

Staff – 2 representatives - Salary and Fringe Chair and 1 Standing Member (appointed by the President)

Retirees - 1 representative – (must be plan participant, will be appointed by the President)

Administration - 2 representatives - VP of Financial Planning & Administration and 1 Standing Member (appointed by President)

Benefits Coordinator

Wellness Committee Member – Standing Member (appointed by the President)

Director of Human Resources – Committee Chair

**GAC Summary:** It was recommended that there be the option of choosing an alternate member should a selected member not be able to serve so there are always two representatives from Faculty Senate and Staff Senate on the University Benefits Committee. This proposal will be forwarded to the President for his approval.

**Presidential Action:** This proposal was signed by the President on May 24, 2011.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennie McDonald  
Secretary