General Education Food Theme--Faculty & Student Forum

January 12, 2012

MINUTES

PRESENT: Susan Adam, Anthony Ambrosio, Rob Catlett, Steve Catt, Gerry Coffman, Charles Emmer, Larry Falcetto, Ellen Hansen, Heidi Hamilton, Britney Hinrichs, Brian Hollenbeck, April Huddleston, Harry Imbeau, Jodie Leiss, Sheryl Lidzy, Andy Pore, & Gary Wyatt

Discussion of theme related activity this semester—International Food Festival. Harry Imbeau spoke on the International Food Festival. It will be held Saturday, March 3rd, 2012 from 11a.m. to 2p.m. Organizations make and sell foods, as well as have performances and displays. There will be an International Food Festival meeting on Friday, January 20th from 3:30-4:30p.m. to learn more about the event. Those present thought the International Food Festival would be a great activity to be a part of this semester.

Review of the Food Film Festival Survey last semester—Handouts were passed out of the results from the surveys.

Issues with Food theme in Courses—Handouts of the results from the Food theme questionnaire were passed out and reviewed. We had a small group activity, where we talked about the strengths and weaknesses of the theme, and ways to improve.

Theme Strengths: Students able to make connections socially & culturally, improved reasoning, students are more aware of food in society, they learned better eating habits, and had hands-on learning. Cohesiveness. Discussion of sustainability. There are Professors implementing the food theme.

Theme Weaknesses: The Name “Food”, Students are not being told or do not understand the “Why?” we have a food theme. Participation level. Professors participating do not know what other professors are doing with the theme, to be able to connect with others courses.

Improvements: Devise a learning community to keep each other up-to-date on activities, events, discussions, and ideas with the food theme.

1. Food Related Topics- Food: _______________(specific application to it)
2. More Connection between Professors-
   a. Meet 2nd Thursday of each month (clear purpose of the meeting)
   b. Blackboard (compile & post ideas, activities, discussions to better improve the food theme.
      i. Thurs, Feb. 9 “Framing the Food Theme in Your Class”
      ii. Thurs, March 8 “Improving Critical Thinking Skills through the Food Theme”
      iii. Thurs, April 12 “Reframing Gen Ed as a pre-cursor to your major”
      iv. Thurs, May 10 “Improvements for the future”
   c. Discussion of Peer Groups (1 professor from each department together in one group)
3. Improve Survey
4. Emphasize food in other courses-not just general education courses.
   a. Growth throughout campus

Adjourned: 4:20 p.m.
Recorder: Britney Hinrichs

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Wyatt
Director of General Education