

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2005
LIBRARY 401**

Mr. Richard Trout called the meeting to order at approximately 12:30 p.m.

Voting Members in Attendance: Ms. Brenda Breeding, Ms. Dianne Broyles, Dr. Jeff Carlisle, Ms. Vicki Gibson, Ms. Jenean Jones, Ms. Deborah Myers, Mr. Max Simmons, Mr. Richard Trout (chair).

Absent Voting Members: Dr. Dave Charlson, Mr. Charles Nunley.

Others in Attendance: Ms. Sue Hinton, Ms. Gwin Faulconer-Lippert, Mr. Mark Schneberger.

Approval of Minutes

- Jenean Jones made the motion to approve the October 13, 2005 General Education Committee minutes.

Max Simmons seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Assessment Presentation from the Division of Science and Mathematics

Max Simmons distributed copies of the *Scientific Methodology Assessment Report* along with a brief outline of the document. This assessment instrument consisting of 20 multiple choice questions was designed by faculty members from the biology, chemistry and physics departments. The assessment instrument was administered to students in selected general education science courses. The total instruments graded were 1027. The average score on the instrument was 80%; 96.7% of these students scored above 60% on the exam; 88% of these students scored above 70%.

The Committee briefly discussed the assessment report. Concern was expressed about four of the questions being written as leading to the correct answer. It was recommended that another study be done with revised questions.

- Jenean Jones made the motion that the department of Science and Mathematics resubmit their assessment report with changes to the General Education Committee at a later date.

Jeff Carlisle seconded the motion.

Max Simmons informed the Committee that the Provost has viewed the *Scientific Methodology Assessment Report*. Due to the Provost viewing the document and the Committee's responsibility of making a recommendation to accept or reject assessment reports, the Committee decided to change the above stated motion.

- Brenda Breeding made a motion recommending the Committee accept the *Scientific Methodology Assessment Report* as written.

Vicki Gibson seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Assessment Proposal from the Arts and Humanities Division

Gwin Faculconer-Lippert and Sue Hinton presented and distributed copies of the *Proposed Assessment Plan for Oral and Nonverbal Communications Skills*. The objective of the assessment is to assess the oral and nonverbal communications skills of students in general education classes. They proposed a plan to assess 300 students during the spring 2006 semester. The assessment instrument consists of a 5 question rubric with a scale measuring their speech performance. The students would be assessed anonymously; however, the rubric forms would distinguish between students evaluated in public address classes vs. those who are evaluated in other general education courses.

Gwin informed the Committee that they are requesting about \$3,000 to pay evaluators. It was suggested to ask adjuncts to evaluate. It was also recommended that Gwin offer a WOW presentation to train evaluators. The Committee informed Gwin that the assessment reports are presented by Dr. Sechrist to the Board in May or June. Gwin expressed concern that the report may not be completed by that time. Richard Trout will find out when the reports are due to be presented to the Board and find out how the evaluators would be funded. He will report this information back to Gwin Faculconer-Lippert.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:30 p.m.