

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2006
LIBRARY ROOM 407B**

Call to Order: Ms. Diane Broyles called the meeting to order at 12:35 PM.

Voting Members Present: Ms. Diane Broyles (co-chair), Dr. Jeff Carlisle, Ms. Kayla Fessler, Ms. Carol Heitkamper, Ms. Marybeth McCauley, and Mr. Max Simmons (co-chair).

Voting Members Absent: Mr. Douglas Gregory, Dr. Cassandra Meek, Mr. Charles Nunley, and Mr. Richard Trout.

Others in Attendance: Ms. Carlotta Hill, Ms. Liz Largent, Ms. Anita Williams, and Mr. Mark Schneberger.

Materials Distributed: December 7, 2006 Agenda, November 9, 2006 Minutes, October 12, 2006 Minutes, and Draft Proposal for Freshmen Experience Course.

Approval of Minutes

Dr. Carlisle made the motion to approve the October 12, 2006 Minutes as written. Mr. Simmons seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Ms. Heitkamper made the motion to approve the November 9, 2006 Minutes as written. Dr. Carlisle seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Report of the Recommendation of the Humanities/Social Science Gen Ed Task Force

Dr. Harrison formed the Gen Ed Task Force to look at assessment instruments for Arts and Humanities and Social Sciences. Dr. John Boyd chaired the committee. Ms. Bertha Wise researched assessment instruments in great detail. No assessment instruments were found for Arts and Humanities and Social Sciences. Committee recommended that assessment instrument be designed in-house. The next course of action will be for the General Education Committee to form a committee to design assessment instrument. Mr. Simmons commented that statements in catalog are not competencies nor are they measurable. Competencies for both areas will need to be determined and it was recommended that competencies be written by the faculty.

On another note, Mr. Simmons commented that over 800 students in the Science and Mathematics department have been assessed in Developmental Math using Compass. Department has not been impressed with Compass results and will no longer use Compass. Department is currently looking at Accuplacer as a replacement for Compass.

Report from the "Freshman Experience" Task Force

Ms. Williams and Ms. Largent are co-chairs for the Freshmen Experience Task Force. The Freshman Experience course is still in the proposal stage. The Task Force would

like recommendation from the General Education Committee before presenting to the Curriculum Committee. The following items were discussed in reference to the proposed course:

- Will be 1 credit hour
- Will include lecture lab
- College Success Seminar was selected as course title
- Course description was self explanatory in handout
- Lab setup has not been determined, but will include field activities
- Extra pay proposed for 1.5 course/lab
- Proposing 40 sections for Fall 2008
- Grading will be A, B, C, or F. No D.
- Will be a General Education elective
- Will be a requirement for students with less than 12 to 15 hours

Suggestions made by the General Education Committee were –

- Statement should include “This is required of new students and must be completed by and give specific timeline.
- Will have to ask for exception if student does not want to enroll in this course

Mr. Simmons made the motion to recommend the proposed FEX as a General Education course. Ms. Fessler seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Task Force asked the General Education Committee to submit in writing the Committee’s endorsement of the proposed FEX, so it could be included in proposal to the Curriculum Committee. The next course of action will be to present to the Curriculum Committee. The Curriculum Committee will then submit to the General Education Committee.

Update on Assessment Week

No update.

Report on Proposals for Changes to the list of General Education Classes

Call was put out, but no proposals were submitted.

Other

Mr. Simmons shared with committee the following proposal from Mr. Ray McCullar –

- Propose required list of reading materials
- Possibly 8 to 15 books per semester
- Cover 8 to 9 categories
- Faculty must agree on book
- This would establish core
- Would encompass General Education and Global Education
- Integrate into Syllabus
- Suggestion made that this be a requirement for graduation

The committee discussed the pros and cons of the proposal including infringement of academic freedom. No agreement was reached by the committee.

Adjournment

Ms. Heitkamper made the motion to adjourn meeting. Ms. Broyles seconded motion. The motion was approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 1:31 PM.