

Minutes of General Education Committee Meeting
Thursday February 24, 3:00-4:00 PM

Members Present: Felicia Armstrong, Kevin Ball, Bob Beebe, Brian Bonhomme, Sarah Lowry, Nicole Mullins, Phil Munro, Matt O'Mansky, Tod Porter (Chair)

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed and discussion ensued regarding the awarding of credits for study abroad for the international component of the new General Education model. The committee agreed that students should be able to get credit for fulfilling that aspect of the Gen Ed model but will not be awarded academic credit. No formal motion or action was taken at this time. Brian is revising the minutes in order to clarify the position.

First Year Experience

The committee discussed the SGA presentation on a "First Year Experience" from the previous meeting. Several questions and concerns were raised, including:

- Should such a program be housed under General Education?
- Who will teach the courses?

Sarah had discussions with Sheri Lincoln, who agreed that the First Year Experience should be a one credit hour course. Ideally, it would be taught by full time faculty but it is possible that graduate students could teach the classes. The Counseling Program in the Department of Education was mentioned as a good candidate for grad student teachers and there may be other programs and departments from which graduate students could teach.

At Tod's suggestion, the committee decided to move forward separately for the time being as we continue to work on the General Education revision. We will discuss the First Year Experience in the future as more progress is made.

Associate Programs and the New General Education Model

Tod reported that he had emailed the deans about the new Gen Ed model with regard to associate degrees. No deans replied. As such, we are keeping the current bulletin listings regarding associate program Gen Ed requirements but substituting in the new domain names.

Responsible Citizenship Domain

As currently stated in the domain goals, students would be required to take courses from two different subcategories ("silos") in order to fulfill this domain. The committee agreed that students should be able to fulfill the requirements of this domain by taking multiple courses from a single silo, if they so choose. The word "two" was eliminated from the goals. "*Students will demonstrate understanding in any of the following....*" (old version: "*...in any two of the following....*")

Senate Motion

The committee made some minor grammatical changes to the motion and discussed the GEC's ability to assign existing Gen Ed courses to the new domains. In particular, we discussed the

clause concerning the committee's ability to exclude courses that are approved Gen Ed courses in the current model. The committee discussed alternative language and agreed to adopt Nicole's version:

"The General Education Committee will determine whether courses fit the new domain structure and to which domain each approved course will be assigned."

Schedule

The Gen Ed model will be presented for information purposes to the Academic Senate at the March 2 meeting of the Senate. Forums will be held with all 6 colleges at some point after that meeting and 4 of the 6 have been scheduled. Gen Ed Committee members are requested to attend the forum in their own college, and any others if they so desire.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 PM

Minutes submitted by Matt O'Mansky