

# General Education Meeting

## August 23, 2005

### Approved Minutes

Present: Gretta Handke, Richard Liebendorfer, Doug Ganss, Ron Nickerson, Chair, and Kellian Clink

- 1) We were welcomed back.
- 2) Unapproved minutes from our 11/3/04, 11/10/04, 4/6/05 and 4/20/05 meetings were approved.
- 3) We discussed the status of three course proposals that were tabled and not acted on last year:
  - a) Chem 135 (Science in Sport) – Awaiting HP 135 companion proposal
  - b) Music 121 (Women in music) – asked for clarification on how course meets category objectives
  - c) Anth 120 (Forensic Science: An Anthropological Approach) – Tabled pending UCAP action (UCAP approved 5/26/05).

We decided that we would discuss Chem 135 and Anth 120 next week and Dick would contact the Music Department to determine their intentions with Music 121.

- 4) We agreed that our regular meeting time for the faculty committee would be Wednesdays at 3 PM. Gretta will check on the availability of the conference room in the Dean of Social and Behavioral Sciences Office. We also agreed that the Sub-Meet would meet the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 3PM. Ron will notify members if there are no agenda items.
- 5) Sub-Meet Notes from the last meeting last year (4/20/05) were distributed to members. This led into a discussion of assessment activities for this year. We agreed that we would complete the assessment for categories 6, 10 and 11 this fall and work on an evaluation of the assessment plan with any appropriate revisions during the spring semester. Dick agreed to continue his work on Category 6, Kellian agreed to work with Jim Rife to reconvene the Category 10 GECCIG and Ron agreed to convene the Category 11 GECCIG.
- 6) We discussed the status of the Categories 7 & 8 Review Project we began last fall. Ron distributed a list of the courses for which he has received the requested forms indicating the degree to which their courses address the category learning outcomes. Several departments have not responded. We recommended that the following actions be taken:
  - a) Ron work with Warren Sandmann to write a letter to department chairs who have not responded reminding them of the project and redistributing the form.
  - b) Committee members speak with departments in their respective colleges who have not responded. Ron agreed to send members copies of the forms.
  - c) Ron work with Warren to draft a letter to department chairs encouraging them of the importance of making faculty aware of the Gen Ed outcomes, the recommendation that the outcomes be included in course syllabi and the importance of teaching content that will allow students to achieve the outcomes.

- 7) We briefly talked about Gen Ed Clusters and that Tony Filipovitch and others have formed the first Gen Ed Cluster for implementation this fall. We will touch base with them to see how it went next spring. And, we discussed the availability of additional funds from Academic Affairs to give faculty release time to develop additional clusters, as well as funds that might be available to host a workshop on development of Gen Ed Course Clusters through CETL. Kellian suggested that St. Olaf might be a good resource to work with on cluster development.
- 8) Ron reminded us that the Faculty Association had assembled a Diversity Curriculum Committee last year to look at the university's cultural diversity requirement. They have met a couple of times and are continuing to work this fall.
- 9) Don Larsson joined us to discuss the HLC accreditation self-study and to ask us to review those portions that apply to Gen Ed. By Sept. 15th. We agreed to look at the material that has been written, suggest revisions and discuss it at our committee meeting next week.
- 10) We briefly discussed the need for the committee to review the Distance Learning Task Force Report that was finished late last year. We agreed that this was important because of the Gen Ed implications; but that we needed to focus on the HLC self-study first and then we'd spend some time on the Distance Learning Task Force Report.
- 11) We briefly discussed a project being led by Academic Affairs and the Registrar's Office to examine the process used to determine transfer equivalencies. More coming later. The group is just beginning to meet.
- 12) We addressed a student appeal. The student asked for an exception to the policy that more than 8 credits from a single department could be used to satisfy Gen Ed requirements. In the case in question, the student took Soc 202 to satisfy the Math and Logical Reasoning requirement but had also taken two other 3-credit Sociology courses to satisfy categories 7 & 8. We recommended approval for this particular case only because Soc 202 is in the Math and Logical Reasoning category.

Respectfully submitted,

Ron Nickerson