

**General Education Sub Meet & Confer**  
**September 21, 2005**  
**Notes**

Present: Ron Nickerson and Warren Sandmann, Co-Chairs, Dick Liebendorfer, Bill Wagner, Jim Rife, Harry Krampf, Dave Gjerde, Gretta Handke, Kellian Clink, scribe.

1. We welcomed Dave Gjerde who has joined the Sub-Meet this year as an ex officio member from the administration.
2. We discussed the General Education Committee's response to the HLC document. Ron Nickerson will send an edited version to Don Larsson as soon as possible.
3. We discussed the Distance Learning Task Force Report and the faculty committee's pending response to the report. The Gen Ed Faculty Committee expressed a concern that Gen Ed courses which are taught online receive the same level of oversight, review and assessment that is applied to other Gen Ed courses to ensure that courses are delivering content to achieve the relevant Gen Ed Category Objectives. Faculty indicated that they had adopted the following motion at its September 14<sup>th</sup> meeting for inclusion in the Committee's written comments on the report.

In the face of apparently significantly different pedagogical methodology in a distance learning environment, it seems appropriate for the General Education Committee to review General Education course proposals being taught in this mode to review how learning outcome are going to be accomplished.

The General Education Faculty Committee also expressed some concerns with the report's lack of discussion regarding curricular issues, its overwhelming emphasis on generation of money and new students and its lack of recognition that additional faculty resources would be needed to accomplish many of what the faculty consider overly ambitious recommendations in the report.

4. We discussed the idea of a second Writing Intensive Requirement. The General Education Committee has long been in favor of such a requirement but were reluctant to implement due to the perception that there was a lack of seats. Warren did a study and found that there were in fact 2,383 possible seats available to students in writing intensive classes this semester. Given the need for students to graduate from MSU with strong writing skills, the General Education Sub-Meet and Confer recommends (Liebendorfer moving, Handke seconding) the following amendment to the General Education Curriculum: the General Education Writing Intensive requirement be increased from 1 required course to two required courses—of at least 6 credits total, effective with the Fall, 2006-2007 University Bulletin. The motion passed unanimously. Ron Nickerson will take this to the Executive Committee of the Faculty Association, from there we would like it go to the Meet & Confer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kellian D. Clink