

## ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES

**DATE:** March 4, 2004

**PRESENT:** Lorrie Steerey  
Audrey ConnerRosberg  
Keith Edgerton  
Alan Davis  
Connie Landis  
John Cech (ex-officio)  
Janie Park (ex-officio)  
Victor Sargent (ex-officio)

Sandie Rietz  
Mary Susan Fishbaugh  
Randall Gloege  
Mark Hardt  
  
Tasneem Khaleel (ex-officio)  
Amanda Mears (ex-officio)  
Carl Hanson (ex-officio)

**ABSENT:** St. John Robinson  
Paul Bauer – *excused*  
Joe Michels (ex-officio)  
George White (ex-officio)  
Curt Kochner (ex-officio)

Matt Redinger – *excused*  
Randy Rhine (ex-officio)  
Terrie Iverson (ex-officio)

**PRESIDING:** Keith Edgerton, Chair

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Keith Edgerton called the meeting to order at 3:37 p.m. in the Chancellor's Conference Room.

The minutes of February 26 were approved with corrections.

### I. ITEMS – FOR INFORMATION

**Item 38** Emeritus Nomination of Dr. Marlene LaCounte, Professor, Department of Educational Theory and Practice, College of Education. For information.

**Item 40** Emeritus Nomination of Dr. George Benedict, Professor, Department of English and Philosophy, College of Arts and Sciences. For information.

⇒ Motion by Randall Gloege, seconded by Sandie Rietz to **accept Items 38 and 40 for information.**

⇒ Motion carried.

## II. ITEMS – FIRST READING

### **Item 22** Revision of General Education Program – Proposal from the Gen Ed Committee REVISED.

It was noted that the Department Chairs should be invited to the next Senate meeting to discuss this proposal. It was cited that the March 18 meeting was at the COT. It was decided that the COT meeting will be moved to April 15.

It was cited that some disciplines, such as History, that cannot create just one comprehensive course.

It was cited that one of the Committee's biggest concerns is reducing the number of courses offered in Gen Ed. The first step is to have the departments submit any course they find appropriate, including currently offered courses. The second step, which is still in the future, is to have departments submit integrated/multidisciplinary courses that may replace what the department is currently offering. It was noted that the departments choose what they want to submit, not a committee.

It was cited that we have to make sure students will know they are not going to have problems or need to take extra credits.

It was noted that not having Oral Communication mentioned in the categories is a major gap, especially for business students. It was noted that our current Oral Communication category is not required by the Board of Regents, so in streamlining the Academic Foundations program, that category was removed. However, it can be part of many of the other categories.

It was noted that if a program requires certain courses in Gen Ed, there are six credits of electives in the Academic Foundations proposal. Those six credits could be used to make up for something the students need for their majors. It was noted that the Committee eventually wants to propose a capstone course to pull the assessment components together, and part of those six credits will be needed for the capstone.

It was noted that many of the current Gen Ed courses are taught by part-time faculty. The Gen Ed Committee is encouraging tenured and tenure-track faculty to teach Gen Ed courses, which is a good idea. However, that idea upsets the balance of faculty. Part-time faculty who could be under-qualified may end up teaching upper division courses. It was noted that it is up to the department which courses are taught by part-time faculty.

It was cited that if Gen Ed faculty are organized into one group, it may eliminate some of the non-cohesiveness of the current program. Those faculty could get together and decide standards and models for each Academic Foundations course.

It was noted that integrated or multidisciplinary courses may be taught by two instructors. This is not hard to handle administratively, but it is expensive. Both instructors will want full pay for teaching that course. One solution, and it is not the best, is to double the class size and the cost would then equalize.

It was decided by the Senate that a **General Faculty Meeting will be called on March 30, 2004, at 3:40 pm in LI 148 for the purpose of discussing the Gen Ed Committee Proposal.** The proposal will be sent out to all faculty via email prior to the meeting.

**Attachment #4 (Outcomes Matrix)**

*4.c. under Intellectual Growth & Development: Demonstrate an ability to make responsible personal choices.*

It was noted this component of the matrix is essentially non-measurable. This is either impossible to measure or too repressive to be in the matrix.

4.c was revised to:

*Demonstrate an ability to take responsibility for personal choices.*

The meeting adjourned at 4:56 p.m.

rjrm