

**General Education Committee  
Minutes**

January 23, 2002

Present: Pat Holman  
Randall Gloege  
George Benedict  
Mark Hardt

Presiding: Mark Hardt, Chair

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The meeting was called to order at 3:10 p.m. in the Gallatin Room of the SUB.

There was not a quorum, so the members discussed what the agenda should be for the next meeting.

It was stated clearly the decisions must be made soon.

It was decided that the committee should discuss the recommendation of cutting the number of required General Education credits to 30, that is, 25% of the 120 required credits for a baccalaureate degree. It was pointed out, however, that cutting the General Education credit requirement to 30 would result in complete removal of the writing requirement. It was suggested the writing requirement be outside the General Education department, or “writing intensive” courses could be developed. It was cited that separate writing courses would result in a two-tiered General Education program. “Writing intensive” courses have been tried already and were not successful.

Decoupling of General Education from the departments was also suggested as a recommendation. After further discussion, decoupling was narrowed down to double-counting classes. The committee decided that doing away with double-counting of courses should be discussed as a recommendation at the next meeting.

Board of Regents requirements were then discussed. It was decided that the actual Board of Regents requirements should be brought to the next meeting and discussed in detail. The Board’s condition that General Education courses be transferable is also a factor in new requirements for MSU-B.

After much discussion, it was decided that some models and materials should be presented at the next meeting, namely: the Board of Regents requirements, General Education systems from other universities, a hybrid General Education model with a list of both integrated and non-integrated courses that are or could be offered at MSU-B, and the General Education requirement cut to 30 credits.

Respectfully submitted, Rita J. Rabe