

General Education Committee Minutes

April 6, 2004

Present:	Randall Gloege Michael Dennis Amanda Mears (student)	Connie Landis Squy Wallace Connie Summers (student)
Absent:	Mark Hardt – <i>excused</i> Sandie Rietz – <i>ex-officio</i> John Cech – <i>ex-officio</i> Randy Rhine – <i>ex-officio</i> Joe Michels – <i>ex-officio</i> Janie Park – <i>ex-officio</i>	James Nowlin – <i>excused</i> Cathey White – <i>ex-officio</i> Tasneem Khaleel – <i>ex-officio</i> George White – <i>ex-officio</i> Carl Hanson – <i>ex-officio</i> Curt Kochner – <i>ex-officio</i>

The meeting was called to order at 3:39 p.m. in the Bridger room of the SUB.

The minutes of March 23 were accepted.

I. Student Input

The new student members noted that in the current system some courses do seem to be easier than others. Also, not allowing double counting could take flexibility out of many programs, especially business. It was cited that AACSB requires 50% of all of a student's courses are to be outside of business (60 credits).

II. General Faculty Meeting (March 30)

It was noted that there was not nearly as much opposition as was expected. It was noted that some chairs are considering not submitting any courses for Academic Foundations to protest this new structure.

It was noted that one significant problem is the perception that the General Education Committee has put itself above the UCC in approving the courses. It was cited that the UCC will still review all courses that come through, but the General Education Committee will be the ones putting those courses into the structure. The courses and structure will still have to be approved by Senate anyway.

The Committee decided to invite Steve Coffman, who has been most vocal in opposing the proposal, to meet with the Committee and discuss his concerns.

It was noted that all systems on campus are political to some degree, and for this Committee to claim it is a-political is not a good idea. The Committee should say that we are advocating for the entire University, rather than for a department or college.

III. Bumping Courses Out of Academic Foundations

It was noted that we need some flexibility in the number of courses in each Academic Foundations category. If some really good courses are proposed, we don't want to say "no" just because there isn't room for them in the list. It was suggested that a target of six courses in each category be allowed, with a maximum of eight. The bumped courses will also not be closed immediately. The departments will have time, perhaps two years or until the next catalog, to adjust to the change. It was noted that if a course gets bumped, that may be the incentive to re-evaluate that course and then resubmit it for Academic Foundations.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Rita J. Rabe Meduna.