

**General Education Committee
Minutes**

January 27, 2014

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| Present: | Mark Jacobson | Bernie Quetchenbach |
| | Melinda Tilton | Kurt Toenjes |
| | Rhonda Dillman | Mike Havens |
| | Jennifer Lynn | Tom Regele |
| | Jodi Lightner | Leanne Gilbertsen |
| | Patricia Nichols | Rosemarie Dugi |
| | Scott Harris | Elizabeth Fullon |
| | TyRee Jenks | Tasneem Khaleel (ex-officio) |
| | Matt Redinger (ex-officio) | |

Absent:

Guest: Ken Miller

Kurt Toenjes called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m. in McMullen 305.

The minutes of November 18 were accepted as presented.

I. ITEM FOR INFORMATION

Item 37 MART 260 Computer Presentation and Animation. Remove prerequisites.

The item was accepted with no disagreement.

II. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

A. ETS Testing Update

For the Fall 2013 semester, we only ended up testing 22 students. No students showed up for the open testing sessions. The gift cards for the bookstore ended up being a “thank you” rather than an incentive. The 22 we did get were in-class, mostly in the sciences and business. So, in-class testing is definitely the way to go.

Our target for this academic year is 350, so we have a long way to go this semester. Communication and Psychology have plans to administer the test to about 27 and 40 students, respectively. Education can test all of their students going into student teaching, and that will be 2 groups of 100 each. Art is on board but won’t know until later this semester how many tests they will need. History will be under 20 students.

The tests themselves will be moved to Vice Provost Redinger's office, so when requesting tests, contact Dr. Toenjes, Dr. Redinger, and Dr. Redinger's assistant. Please be aware that the Business Office needs to know the names of the students receiving the gift cards. We also want to prevent students from taking the test more than once.

It was suggested that, rather than have an open testing day, instructors could encourage students in their small classes to take the test in another classroom. For instance, the languages students could test with the English capstone students. It was agreed that any instructor doing the test during a class time this Spring semester should submit date/time/place information so the Committee can build a schedule. The schedule can then be distributed to give students many choices on testing times.

B. Writing Requirement Policy: Modify or Remove?

Due to the changes the Committee made in writing requirements, the Writing Policy no longer matches the Gen Ed structure and it's out of date. The Committee can make recommendations to the Senate on this matter, even though technically this is a Senate policy, not a Gen Ed policy.

The first step would be to remove the statement that WRIT 101 is required, as any course in the Gen Ed writing category will do. However, the issue becomes the COMPASS test. Students can currently test out of WRIT 101, receiving a "P" grade. We could require that every program has to have a writing requirement. We could stop using the COMPASS test to test out of WRIT 101. It was noted that Bozeman will not accept students transferring in with a "P" grade in WRIT 101. We could require that students pass one of the writing courses in the writing category with a passing letter grade. We could also place a statement in the catalog that the COMPASS test is for placement only, not testing out of (challenging) courses.

Dr. Redinger invited any member of the Committee who would like to participate in a conference on gateway courses such as WRIT 101. The conference is in Indianapolis, March 23-25.

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Rita J. Rabe Meduna.