General Education Program Committee
Minutes
7 March 2005

Present: Chuck Booth, Hope Cook, Richard Jones-Bamman, Maggie Martin, Delar Singh, Bob Wolf, Nancy Salter (ex-officio)

1. Minutes
   Minutes of the meetings of 7 March 2005 (Booth,) were moved and approved with the addition of Delar Singh to members present.

Old Business

2. Proposal Development
   Another draft of the committee proposal shall be developed. It was suggested that this document contain examples of the types of courses that may fit each category. Categories should be annotated with more detail that describes the purposes and approaches of each.

3. Newsletter
   Postponed to the next meeting.

4. Faculty Forums and Feedback
   Faculty feedback reflected the need to be more specific about Tier II courses and to insure that the courses in this category are more consistent. The Creative Expression and Cultural Perspectives categories appear broad and multidisciplinary, the Social and Natural Sciences categories appear more disciplinary. Maggie will meet with the social science faculty to discuss new language and approaches. Alternatives for the Natural Sciences category were discussed.

   The committee discussed feedback from last week’s forums, including discussions of the health, wellness and recreation, inductive reasoning, technological literacy, mathematics, and modern language proposals. Other questions raised by faculty include whether Tier III courses should be hosted outside of the major and if History has the necessary resources to offer courses to all students in the gen. Faculty opinion seems to be strongly divided in some areas. The committee may conduct a preference survey. It was suggested that the Office of Planning and Institutional Research be contacted to ascertain their willingness and capacity to host such a survey for the committee.

5. Modern Language Information
   Maggie discussed with the chair of Modern Languages whether the department’s proposal should be sent to Academic Affairs for review. There was a strong sense that the department preferred to examine the proposal with the GEPC. The committee further reiterated that a language competency test was similar to the English and Math placement tests in Tier 0, the details of which are not explored within the GEPC.

New Business

6. Spring Meetings
   A question was posed whether the committee was interested in hosting another forum or presentation at the final spring University meeting and/or at the last Lunch and Learn event in May. Members will consider these opportunities.

Next Meeting: The next GEPC meeting will be Monday, 14 March at 2:00 p.m. in Webb 258.

Respectfully submitted,

Maggie Martin, Chair