General Education Program Committee  
Minutes  
18 April 2005  

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

1. Minutes  
Minutes of the 11 April 2005 meeting were moved and approved (Pellegrini, Singh).  

Old Business  

2. Proposal Development  
The Committee discussed text proposed by David Pellegrini which refines the descriptions of each of the tiers. Delar Singh proposed new text for learning outcomes for the Tier II categories.  

3. Faculty Survey and Referendum  
The Committee discussed proposals received from the Health and Physical Education and Modern Language faculty to be placed in the GEPC opinion survey. The survey will be held electronically, with easy access through an e-mailed url. The survey will close on Monday, April 25. The Committee discussed the language for the letters regarding the status of the GEPC work and the opinion poll announcement. Final edits will be made via e-mail.  

The referendum on the proposed model will be conducted by the Senate Organization Committee from May 4-10. This will be an electronic referendum.  

New Business  

4. Presentation by Computer Sciences, Jian Lin  
Dr. Lin requested 15 minutes to present his department’s proposal for technological literacy to the GEPC. Dr. Lin indicated that his interpretation of the Department of Higher Education purposes for general education study which supported state regulation of general education in higher education, strongly encouraged the study of technology. His department is seeking inclusion as a separate category of study in the GEPC, or if not acceptable, a change in the Natural Sciences Tier II category, which he suggests should be renamed, Scientific Inquiry and Applications, allowing inclusion of computer science classes. Although the content of the department’s proposal was not clear, it appeared from answers to the Committee’s questions, that the content of a proposed course or courses should include “foundational” information about computers, information systems, networks, digital representation of information, information organization, protection, and security, modeling and abstraction, algorithmic thinking and programming, universality of computers, limitations of information technology, and the societal impact and ethical use of information and information technology.  

5. NEASC Fifth-Year Report  
Tabled.  

6. Next meeting: April 25, 2005  

Next Meeting: The next GEPC meeting will be Monday, 25 April at 2:00 p.m. in Webb 258.  

Respectfully submitted,  
Maggie Martin, Chair