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

1. Review and acceptance of draft minutes of 6 June 2005 (Booth, Singh) and 13 June 2005 (Jones-Bamman, Williams). Minutes for both days approved.

Old Business

2. Meeting with Dr. Carter
   Dr. Carter congratulated the Committee on its work during the year. He expressed his gratitude and enthusiasm for our new general education proposal. Dr. Carter would like information as soon as possible about resource requirements. He suggests that we prepare written material and, if possible, a videotape describing to new faculty the purposes and philosophies of our new general education proposal.

   The Committee discussed the President’s suggestion and agreed that such an information project may be useful not only to new faculty but to students as well. We will contact Dr. Denise Matthews from the Communications Department to determine if she is interested in working on this project with the Committee. Maggie will also contact Stacey Close to offer the Committee’s service in the orientation of new faculty regarding general education for the 2005-2006 academic year.

3. Meeting with Ed Osborne, University Relations
   Members of the Committee have been contacted by University Relations regarding a feature story on general education reform. The interviews were interesting and invigorating. Names of other faculty members who may offer insight about the reform process were generated and will be shared with Ed Osborne.

4. First Year Program
   A letter of response was sent to Jaime Gomez indicating the GEPC’s willingness to work closely with the First Year Program Committee in the implementation of our first year colloquia and academic skills seminars.

5. Implementation Planning
   The Committee discussed the need to begin phase-in of Tier II and Tier III courses shortly after the implementation of Tier I in fall 2007. To facilitate the transition, all new courses approved for the new ger will be linked, when possible, to fulfill old ger categories.

   The Committee discussed the implementation of the first year colloquia and academic seminar. The following preferences were identified:
   - All first year, full time students will take the colloquia and seminar as a linked pair.
   - At least 2/3 of students will take this cluster during the fall semester.
   - For those students who do not take the colloquium/seminar in the fall, they must take the English composition class.
   - Block scheduling is preferred for all first year students. Majors could steer potential major students into specified blocks.
   - As at least 40 sections of the colloquia/seminars will be necessary in fall 2007. The University only has 31 classrooms available, the University should secure portable classrooms to accommodate these sections. First year students will benefit from a common space which includes room for informal discussion, as well as classrooms that are flexible and conducive to small group discussion.
   - First year colloquia/seminars should be linked to University Hours. These classes should be held on a Monday/Wednesday, Wednesday/Friday schedule, permitting opportunities for larger group meetings and events.
• Faculty incentives for designing and participating in the colloquia/seminars should be offered. Faculty volunteers should be expected to meet with other faculty who teach in this program and should be offered stipends and/or a reduced course load.
• Faculty/administrative resources should be identified to provide oversight of and leadership for this program and the general education program.
• Curriculum development is essential for the success of the new general education program. The Center for Education Excellence should be utilized as well as other creative resources, including faculty exchanges and visiting professorships.

3. Next Meeting: The next GEPC meeting will be Monday, 27 June, 10:00 a.m., in Webb 258.

Respectfully submitted,

Maggie Martin, Chair