General Education Program Committee
Minutes
27 October 2004

Present: Chuck Booth, Hope Cook, Novagrami George, Maggie Martin, Dearl Singh, Carol Williams, Nancy Salter, ex-officio.

1. Review and acceptance of draft minutes 20 October 2004
   Minutes reviewed and accepted (Booth, Singh)

Old Business

2. Vote on GER Models
   The Senate Organization Committee is prepared to hold the vote on our question regarding the preferred model for reform. The vote will be held on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, November 2-4. The Committee reviewed a draft letter and graphical description of the two models, to be distributed to the faculty prior to the vote. Edits were made and it was suggested that the letter include hot links to information and models posted on our web site.

3. Forums
   November 3 Lunch and Learn
   A presentation will be made by the Committee at Lunch and Learn. It was decided to present the general approach to reform and the two recommended models. A PowerPoint presentation providing basic information will be developed for presentation at the beginning of the session.

   Other open forums for faculty will be held today and on December 1.

4. Working Groups
   Working groups for the mandated areas have begun meeting and new areas are being scheduled.
   a) Arts and Humanities: met on October 20 however no progress was made in developing goals or learning outcomes. Another meeting will be scheduled.
   b) Social Sciences: met on October 22. Draft goals and student learning objectives were developed. Another meeting is scheduled for November 5.
   c) Natural Sciences: Faculty in the science will meet on Oct. 29.
   d) Next meetings: Additional meetings will be scheduled this week for ethics, culture and historical perspectives working groups.

5. Student Engagement
   Carol reported on her work with housing staff who will assist in the student engagement project on November 17. Housing will inform the resident assistants of our need for volunteers in the studio audience and to promote an audience in the dormitories. Angela Bazin will assure that flyers are posted and information sent to the RA distribution list. Letters have been sent to faculty to recruit students from academic clubs and honor societies for the studio audience. Student government senators will also be recruited. A notice will be posted on the University calendar.

6. Web Page
   New information to be added to our web page was discussed. Two new threads – one on the nature of culture and another on feedback for the committee – will be posted on the e-forum. The final survey results from the philosophy survey will be posted.

7. General education goals
   Tabled.

8. New course proposal
The Committee reviewed the submission for category IA, Sustainable Energy. Although the Committee recognized the potential for the course to fit the standards set for this category, regarding interdisciplinarity and the processes of knowledge development, material to adequately assess these was not present. Maggie will contact Dr. Loxsom to request additional information in writing.

New Business

9. Senate Executive Committee request for hours
   The Senate President commended the work of the Committee and noted the extraordinary dedication and effort of our members. He requested that we provide information to him about the hours devoted to this Committee during this semester.

10. Student Member
    Committee members welcomed Novagrami George, our new student member of the Committee.

11. Meeting time
    Tabled.

Next Meeting: The next GEPC meeting will be Wednesday, November 3, at 9:30 am in Webb 258.

Respectfully submitted,

Maggie Martin, Chair