General Education Program Committee
Minutes
3 November 2004

Present: Chuck Booth, Hope Cook, Novagrami George, Richard Jones-Bamman, Maggie Martin, Delar Singh, Carol Williams, Bob Wolf, Nancy Salter, ex-officio.

1. Review and acceptance of draft minutes of 27 October 2004 with corrections of spelling and dates (Booth, Singh).

Old Business

2. Vote on GER Models
   The University Senate has begun the vote for the GEPC models. Voting began on Tuesday, 2 November and will continue until Thursday, 4 November. The results of the referendum should be known shortly after the closing of the polls.

3. Forums and Working Groups
   a) Reports on recent meetings: Natural Sciences
      The Natural Sciences Working Group met on Friday. More than twenty faculty participated in a lively discussion of goals and objectives. The faculty developed draft language for general education natural science goals and student learning objectives. Another meeting is scheduled for November 12 from 2:00-4:00 for the development of curriculum.
   b) Next meetings:
      All Faculty Forum: Today, Lunch, Noon-2:00 p.m. Webb 115
      Arts and Humanities November 4 3:00-5:00 p.m. Webb 115
      Social Sciences November 5 Noon-2:00 p.m. Webb 437
      Additional meetings
      It was proposed that the December 1, all faculty forum, be employed to open the discussion to departments, fields and interests not addressed by the mandated areas.
   c) Room Scheduling Webb 115
      Room 115 in Webb Hall has been scheduled for twenty slots to permit scheduling of working group meetings.

4. Student Engagement
   Novagrami reported that she has met with Angela Bazin to develop plans for student interaction in the TV forum. She reported that each of the ten residence hall resident assistant (RA) staff would be contacted to suggested a person for the studio audience. There will be slots for two commuters, one student government representative, representatives of OLAS, West Indian Society, the Nubian Society and other campus groups. RA’s in each of the residence halls will coordinate publicity and food for the event.
   Carol Williams discussed her work with Denise Matthews who is coordinating the technical aspects of the presentation. A meeting will be set this week to discuss details. Student members of the studio audience will need background materials to prepare them for the discussion. Participants will be given a token of appreciation for their effort. Carol will explore the possibility of having tee shirts made for the event. Promotional publicity will be developed through David Pellegrini’s assistance and posters placed in Hurley Hall. A story will be placed in the Campus Lantern and University Relations will be contacted.

5. Web Page
   New threads were posted that seek feedback on the committee performance and questions of culture.
6. New course proposal
   Additional supporting material for the inclusion of EES 205 as a GER 1 A course was reviewed. Dr. Loxsom prepared materials which described the rationale for the inclusion of the course, Energy in the Environment, in this integrative ger category. Additionally he supplied course materials, including sample tests and assignments, to support acceptance. The committee reviewed and accepted the inclusion of EES 205 into category IA of the ger (Jones-Bamman, Wolf).

7. Committee Hours
   There may be no need to alter committee meeting times at this time.

New Business

8. Procedure for Curriculum Committee and General Education Program Committee Course Approvals

   The Committee discussed the general procedure for approval of a ger course and its relationship to Curriculum Committee approval. Bob Wolf described the process of the Curriculum Committee (CC) which approves courses, reports to Senate, and then notifies the registrar of the course approval. If the department seeks inclusion of the course in the general education curriculum, the course materials are forwarded to the GEPC. This approval process is separate from Curriculum Committee approval, often requiring additional documentation and with no certainty that course approval indicates general education inclusion. A new process was suggested and agreed upon by the GEPC and forwarded to the CC for its approval. Upon CC approval of a course which is intended to be included in the general education program, the CC will submit the proposal to the GEPC. The GEPC will rule on this course and send its decision to the CC. The CC will then report the course approvals to University Senate and the registrar.

Next Meeting: The next GEPC meeting will be Wednesday, November 10, at 9:30 am in Webb 258.

Respectfully submitted,

Maggie Martin, Chair