General Education Program Committee
Minutes
28 November 2005

Members Present: Chuck Booth, Hope Cook, Richard Jones-Bamman, Maggie Martin, Delar Singh, Andrew Utterback, Carol Williams, Bob Wolf

1. Review and acceptance of the minutes of 28 November 2005 (Williams).

Old Business

2. Liberal Arts Core Curriculum Proposal

The concerns about the formal proposal raised at, and following, the Senate meeting have been addressed during the week.

Mathematics Policy Clarification
Minor editing changes have been completed on the Curriculum Committee proposal to insure that the requirement to register for college-level mathematics within the first 30 credits is noted.

Resources
Dr. Pachis is preparing a report on the availability of classrooms and faculty resources. Additional data regarding faculty resources has been requested from the Office of Planning and Institutional Research.

Integrated Curriculum Elements
The GEPC discussed the best strategies to insure that the philosophy underpinning the integrated curricular elements is permanently included in the record of the Senate deliberations. The GEPC agreed to promote an amendment on the Senate floor in conjunction with the Curriculum Committee to insure that this will occur. Members will circulate text overnight in anticipation of Chuck Booth bringing a document to the Senate Executive Committee meeting on November 29.

Health and Wellness Text
Dr. Horrocks contacted the chair to recommend that the Health and Wellness text be modified to include “a” prior to “scientifically-based”: “Students will develop (a) scientifically-based understanding of the physiological, genetic, behavioral, social and cultural factors that support health and wellness.” It was communicated that “understanding” was considered a plural concept, that a singular understanding was not implied. The Committee discussed editing that would address the concern and maintain clarity. No agreement was reached to alter the document at this time, but if “understandings” is considered grammatically correct and addresses the concerns of the department which raised the concern, the Committee agreed that the text would be altered.

3. Colloquia development - First Year Program Committee

The first draft of a faculty application to the First Year Program Committee for the First Year Liberal Arts Colloquium was reviewed and edited. It was suggested that examples of appropriate colloquia and components of such colloquia, such as monitored experiential learning opportunities, contact hours, alternative formats, and the like be included.

4. ICE Working Groups – Reports Tabled

5. Implementation plans - Tabled

6. Sabbatical Replacement

No information yet received from the Senate Organization Committee.
7. Meeting Times

Consensus appears to be reached that the preferred time for the GEPC meeting during spring 2006 will be Thursdays, 3:15-5:00 p.m. The first meeting of the GEPC will be January 26, 2006.

8. January University Meeting Planning

The GPEC and FYPC will host an all faculty meeting to be held following the University meeting on January 19, 2006. The GEPC brainstormed content, format and location. Members of the Honors Program will be requested to speak about the design, development and implementation of colloquia and the FYPC will be contacted to request that they present a component on the nature of first year student needs and teaching approaches.

New Business

No new business was raised.

Next meeting Monday, 5 December 2005

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Maggie Martin, Chair