General Education Program Committee
Minutes
12 September 2005

Members Present: Chuck Booth, Hope Cook, Richard Jones-Bamman, Maggie Martin, Delar Singh,
Carol Williams, Bob Wolf, Carmen Cid (ex-officio)

1. Review and acceptance of draft minutes of 1 July 2005
   The minutes of the 1 July 2005 meeting were accepted with the modification that Carol Williams
   name be added to the those in attendance. (Booth, Jones-Bamman)

2. Correspondence
   Dr. Anne Dawson, Chair, First Year Program Committee, has requested a meeting with the Chair
   of the GEPC.

Old Business

3. Review of GEPC Proposal
   The text of the GEPC Proposal has been revised during the previous meetings. Members of the
   Committee are requested to review this latest version for clarity and consistency. The philosophy
   and core abilities areas of the proposal, previously accepted by the faculty, should be reviewed for
   final editing. This document will then be distributed to the faculty for a final review prior to
   submitting the proposal to the Curriculum Committee.

4. Critical Thinking Assessment Grant
   A call for volunteers for a critical thinking working group was issued in August. Nine faculty
   volunteered for this committee. The GEPC sought to narrow the group to five persons who would
   be compensated by the CSU Assessment grant. The faculty chosen were selected based upon
   expertise and the need to include diverse disciplines and schools and the promptness of their reply
   to the call for volunteers. The following persons were selected for the Critical Thinking Working
   Group:

   Fred Loxsom, Environmental Earth Sciences, Chair
   Gail Gelbrud, Visual Arts
   Hope Fitz, Philosophy
   Chris Ayeni, Communication
   Catherine Tannahill, Education

5. Ethics Assessment Grant
   Dr. Pachis has agreed to fund honoraria for five faculty to develop the ethics across the curriculum
   content.

New Business

6. Meeting with Dr. Carter
   Dr. Carter met with Maggie in August to discuss plans for the GEPC during this academic year.
   He indicated that the Committee has set the stage for innovation and fundamental change for the
   University. Dr. Carter has asked that the GEPC take the lead in coordinating with other faculty
   and staff committees which are engaged in the change process. These include the First Year
   Program Committee and the Vanguard Committee.

   Additionally, Dr. Carter indicated his support for the GEPC proposal. He indicated that he will
   support the first year colloquia and seminars as proposed. In order to insure that these courses
   become a centerpiece of our liberal arts institution, he proposes that faculty who teach this 4-credit
   package teach only two other courses. These faculty must link their seminars to non-faculty
   personnel, to insure that students in these colloquia are connected to the wider university.
7. Fall Meeting Schedule
   The optimum meeting time for GEPC meetings for the fall 2005 is Mondays, 2:00-3:45 p.m.

8. Reports on Presentations: President’s Advance, New Faculty Orientation
   Maggie presented information about the GEPC proposal and our process to faculty, staff and administrators at the President’s Advance and the New Faculty Orientation.

9. First Year Program Committee
   Members of the First Year Program Committee (FYPC) have asked that the meeting with the chair of the GEPC be postponed until the FYPC has had an opportunity to discuss their preferences for the linkage with the GEPC proposal.

10. World Language Proposal
   The chair reported that Senate Executive Committee suggested that the proposal from the Modern Language Faculty to include proficiency testing as a component of a general education language requirement, be sent to the Curriculum Committee for review. The chair of the Curriculum Committee (CC) indicated that this would not be appropriate for the CC because the proposal was not a specific course, course modification or program. The GEPC recommended again, that his proposal, and the GEPC recommendation that the entrance requirement be enhanced to require three years of study of a single foreign language, be sent to the Academic Affairs Committee for review. The chair will contact Bill Salka from that Committee.

11. Colloquia Development
    Tabled until next meeting.

12. Conferences
    Material related to assessment, liberal arts and general education conferences were distributed.

13. Thanks to Nancy Salter
    Committee members would like to recognize the contributions of Nancy Salter to the GEPC during the past year. We will contact her to establish a time to meet.

14. Other Planning
    Tabled until next meeting.

15. GEPC Committee Composition
    The chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, Bill Salka, has been asked to designate a liaison of this committee to the GEPC. The President of the University Senate has been asked to request that Student Government identify a representative of the student body as a member of this Committee.

16. Integrated Curricular Elements (ICE) – Working Groups
    The GEPC would like each of the four ICE Working Groups to be funded. Dean Cid indicated that she believes that the her office and that of the Dean of Education and Professional Studies could fund the Communication working group, as this is an area that their offices would like to develop. This would leave only the information literacy working group unfunded. Hope Cook will ask the library director if funding for this working group can be secured.

    Members of the GEPC volunteered to be liaisons for each of the ICE working groups. The liaisons are: Richard Jones-Bamman, Communications; Hope Cook, Information Literacy; Delar Singh, Critical Thinking; Chuck Booth, Ethics.

17. Webpage Development
    Returning faculty, new faculty and other members of the campus community need to be informed about the GEPC webpage, its login and password information. The GEPC discussed the need to make information broadly accessible and would like to make the Committee webpage a public-
access document. Maggie will contact Kevin Gill to do this. Also, the links page should be updated to reflect resources relevant to a tiered model and for the new areas of curriculum development. A link on the University's alphabetic index, which explains the current general education program, should also be developed.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Maggie Martin, Chair