Present: Richard Jones-Bamman, Chuck Booth, David Pellegrini, Delar Singh, Carol Williams, Nancy Salter, ex-officio.

1. Review and acceptance of draft minutes 25 August 2004 (Singh, Jones-Bamman).

Old Business

2. Follow-up from August 26 faculty meeting

Feedback from faculty was very favorable for the GEPC presentation following the faculty meeting on August 26. There were also many favorable comments regarding the tiered GER model recommended by the GEPC. However, during the question and answer period some faculty expressed concerns about the lack of specific details of how a tiered GER would be structured, and the impact of a tiered GER on departmental course offerings, faculty teaching loads, and the role of adjuncts in teaching GER courses; these issues would likely apply to any new or revised GER, regardless of the specific model adopted.

3. Feedback from faculty

There have been no new responses to the GEPC web forum.

4. Additional detail for models

Committee members agreed that the faculty should be provided with more specific details for possible structures for both the distribution and tiered GER models; it was agreed that the current GER, the COLA proposal, and the previous GEPC proposal could be offered as three alternatives for a distribution model. One possible version of the tiered model was discussed, with a Tier II distribution component having two levels of courses, one level (IIa) addressing general principles and a second level (IIb) that builds upon the general principles; possible distribution categories would be Quantitative, Humanities, Social Sciences, Natural Sciences, Arts and Creative Processes, with two courses taken in each category.

5. Face-to-face discussion of models

It was agreed that the GEPC needs to continue communicating directly with faculty about its progress in developing models for a new GER. Carol Williams will schedule a Lunch and Learn presentation by the committee in early December (Chuck Booth offered to fill in on that date if the GEPC chooses not to present). The names of departmental liaisons to the committee should be reconfirmed, and the committee will consider meeting with the liaisons to discuss its ideas for new GER models. It was also agreed that committee members should try to visit academic department meetings to discuss its ideas for new GER.

6. New Business

The committee discussed the potential role of the the First Year Program in a new GER. It was agreed that there needs to be better communication between the GEPC and the First Year Program Committee. Nancy Salter will approach the FYP Committee about the possibility of having a member of the GEPC join that committee.
Next Meeting: The next GEPC meeting will be Wednesday, Sept. 8, at 9:30 am in Webb 258.

Respectfully submitted,

Chuck Booth, Acting Chair