General Education Program Committee
Minutes
22 September 2004

Present: Richard Jones-Bamman, Chuck Booth, Maggie Martin, Delar Singh, Nancy Salter, ex-officio.

1. Review and acceptance of draft minutes 15 September 2004 (Booth, Singh).

Old Business

2. Forums
Two faculty forums were scheduled for Wednesday, September 29 from 3:00-4:00 p.m. A pre-tenured faculty forum will be held in Webb 113 and a general faculty forum in Webb 110. Refreshments will be served.

3. Feedback from Departments and Faculty
The Environmental Earth Science faculty will consider the implications of a tiered model for their major. Members of the Committee may be asked to discuss this with the department in early October. The Computer Science faculty communicated with the Committee about new changes in its Computer Competency curriculum and provided information and support for its position that technology literacy should be a required component of the ger.

4. Student Engagement
Denise Matthews has developed a plan in conjunction with Media Services and Center for Instructional Technology. The Committee suggests that the t.v. and web-based event occur after mid-semester. Delar suggested that the student studio audience be composed of representatives of all of the student clubs and organizations. Nancy will contact Denise to offer the assistance of the Dean’s Office. Richard suggested that a preliminary test of questions and approach be incorporated into the First Year Program module that addresses the general education requirements. We will contact Denise to seek her input into who should host the event and other details. The primary approach should be to present a new general education approach to students and to hear their perspectives.

5. Vote on Models
The proposed text of the ballot was reviewed and edited. It was suggested that this text be distributed to the faculty in a memo reminding them of the faculty forum. A date has not yet been set by the Organization Committee.

6. General education goals
The Committee discussed approaches to establishing general education goals and objectives. Specific knowledge areas should be identified as goals as should specific intellectual skills. The Committee discussed whether attitudes or values had a role in the core or if these should or could be derived from knowledge objectives. Committee members noted the difficulties of evaluating the learning outcomes of the general education curriculum and emphasized that any evaluation include qualitative measures.

7. Academic Affairs representative
No new information is available.

New Business

8. Revisions to current GER
Committee members were apprised of the existing policy that the GEPC will review changes (additions and deletions) to the current core if time is available.
9. Web information for the current ger
   The Committee noted from previous discussions that our ECSU Web site provides little
   information about the purpose, philosophy or structure of our general education requirements.
   Dean Salter will explore the development of improved Web information for the current core.

   Next Meeting: The next GEPC meeting will be Wednesday, September 29, at 9:30 am in Webb
   258.

   Respectfully submitted,

   Maggie Martin, Chair