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

1. Review and acceptance of draft minutes 29 September 2004 (Singh, Booth)

Old Business

2. Feedback from Departments and Faculty

The Committee reviewed a letter submitted by the faculty of the Computer Science Program detailing their preferred approach to a core competency within general education. They support an approach, Fluency in Information Technology, recommended by the Committee on Information Technology Literacy with the Computer Science and Telecommunications Board of the National Research Council. Fluency requires the ability to learn foundation knowledge, apply contemporary skills in technology and use intellectual skills, including critical thinking, to adapt to a continually, and rapidly changing environment. A document provided by the Program was distributed to the two faculty who will be meeting with the program next week.

3. Forums

Additional open forums for faculty input have been tentatively scheduled for October 20, November 3, and December 1, from 3:00-4:00 p.m. Webb 110 has been reserved however we would like to find a more compatible room. Maggie will check on the availability of the Johnson Room and the Faculty Dining Room.

4. Vote on Models

Anthony Cornicello reported at the Senate meeting that electronic voting would be employed for the GEPC and Senate committee votes. The software requires authentication, thus the administrators of the vote may link the person with his/her vote. Senate members will test the system between October 6-13, with the actual vote expected to occur from October 14-18.

5. Student Engagement

David Pellegrini has agreed to co-host the General Education TV show which is scheduled for November 18. An additional co-host will be sought. Maggie and Nancy discussed the findings of an AACU study, presented at a symposium held at Southern CT State University, which employed student focus groups to ascertain students’ perceptions about general education curricula. The method and findings may be useful in our student engagement project.

6. Survey responses

The final survey responses have not yet been compiled.

7. General education goals

The Committee discussed the need to establish goals and learning objectives for the mandated knowledge content areas – social sciences, science and arts and humanities. It was decided that departments and programs would be asked to send representatives who could represent the interests of their colleagues at meetings that would be hosted by the GEPC. Maggie will schedule the Social Sciences Working Group, Chuck, the Sciences, and Richard, the Arts and Humanities
areas. These meetings will be held between October 18-29. Additional meetings will be held to discuss other areas of the GEPC.

8. Academic Affairs representative

Academic Affairs is scheduled to meet on Friday.

New Business

9. Lunch and Learn November 3

Lunch and Learn for November 3 has been reserved for the Committee. Members indicated an interest in using this forum for further faculty discussion and input.

10. NEASC Response

Maggie has met with June Bisantz-Evans who is chair of the NEASC response team. The first draft of the report is due for internal review on October 29. Maggie will collaborate with June on this.

Next Meeting: The next GEPC meeting will be Wednesday, October 13, at 9:30 am in Webb 258.

Respectfully submitted,

Maggie Martin, Chair