

GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE  
2004-2005

Minutes of Meeting: 2/2/05, 3:00 p.m. in JB-287

**Members Present:** Stephen Kinzey (Chair)—NS, Allen Butt—SBS, Milton Clark (Admin), Susan Finsen—A&L, Linda Braatz-Brown—ED.

**Absent:** C.E. Tapie Rohm, Jr.—BPA.  
Ezekiel Bonillas—ASI (Student Representative) arrived as meeting was ending.

**Guest:** John Craig, Natural Sciences

Steve announced that John Craig from Natural Sciences was here only for further clarification, if it was needed.

Steve asked for a review of the January 19<sup>th</sup> minutes for approval.

**M/S/P:** It was moved by Allen Butt, seconded by Linda Braatz-Brown, and unanimously passed that the minutes be approved as corrected.

**New Business:**

1. GE Curricular Course Proposals

- a. Objective: To determine all four courses (INFO 102, INFO 103, CSCI 121, and CSCI 124) in light of the recommendations of the CNS Curriculum Committee

*Excerpt from Senate Minutes: "It was m(Nelson), s(Hoffman) to refer this program change proposal (02GE-111) to the College of Natural Sciences Curriculum Committee and then to the General Education Committee. The charge to the College of Natural Sciences Curriculum Committee will be to review and make recommendations concerning INFO 102 and 103 after reviewing CSCI 121 and 124. The charge to the G.E. Committee will be to review all four courses in light of the recommendations of the CNS Curriculum Committee and report back to the Senate by no later than the end of Fall Quarter 2004. After much discussion and a vote of 19 for and 11 against, the motion passed"*

- i. CNS recommendations, and Course Packets (previously delivered to your office)

Steve gave a brief explanation of what had taken place last year when a representative from both Information and Decision Sciences and Computer Sciences came into the committee and the courses used the same syllabi, same teacher, and book. The GE Committee passed to accept the proposals as presented. Then the action of the Faculty Senate (as noted above) required that the CNS Curriculum Committee review the course content to make sure each course meets the Natural Sciences requirement. IDS did not bring another draft to the table, but CS did. Steve said that Tapie had said that IDS is working on their courses. The CS courses went forward and were approved, and the GE Committee basically acquiesced to the decision.

Steve said the Executive Officer of Faculty Senate was looking for a report on whether the committee agreed or disagreed with the findings of the CNS Committee; but we did not get the formal request. Lloyd Peake then requested a written statement from the committee declaring if we accept the INFO

courses into the B4 GE Category, so that is why it is back on the agenda.. (CS did change their courses to address the Natural Sciences objective and INFO did not).

Steve also stated that he is from Natural Sciences, so he feels it is now a hard sell.

Susan stated the INFO courses seem to be focused on technology and do not fit.

Allen said there seems to be no debate about it if they did not make changes to meet the requirements.

Milton "Called the Question." and the committee voted unanimously (5 to 0, no abstention and 2 members not present) to not recommend the inclusion of INFO 102 and INFO 103 into the B4 category.

There was a brief discussion about the committee and who can vote. The rule is that each member of the committee does get to vote (in the event of a tie, then the Chair does). Also, even if Milton is an ex-officio member, he can still vote, unless the rules of the committee state otherwise.

## 2. GE Review Cycle (Milton)

- a. Objective: To provide a status of the paperwork regarding the upcoming review.

Milton distributed a grid of the current review courses and the information his office has received. He indicated that those in gold are taught by TA's. He is going to send a memo to the deans to request the information that is missing. He was told by Juan Delgado that he will have the COMM course information to his office by this week.

Steve said he would like to avoid the procedure that was done the last review cycle, where it was pretty much done by one person. He asked the committee to consider a method of making sure everyone writes their assigned portion and will have some direction on what is required. If necessary, by the next meeting the committee can identify faculty to help with those still needing completed.

Milton said he will divide up the assignments to make sure everyone receives the same amount of work to do; so the sooner we get on it, the sooner we can get it done.

### **Other:**

The question was asked why the Faculty Senate has requested a separate Task Force on reviewing the GE Requirements, as it seems that is a task for the GE Committee. Some of the discussion included: Will the Senate decide that someone needs to look at the GE categories, but who would you ask but us? Steve said he is on both committees, and the Task Force has not even met to vote a chair; and why haven't they by now? Steve mentioned it is very odd that no one knows who is on the Task Force, and would a report need to be written to the Faculty Senate? He said his chair is also on it, so that seems a little strange.

Milton said probably the Task Force is to address the issues surrounding GE beyond what we do (a broader look), but what are they going to address? They report to the Executive Office.

Susan said they could be looking for a deep consideration of the GE Committee, and mentioned that the document states that every course is decertified if we don't certify them so maybe the language of the document could be considered.

The question was asked who certifies the GE courses at the community college level when a student takes them there and transfers them in to our campus. There is no one that checks to see if the courses are really the same when the students come here, and why aren't they held to the same standards as our students? Maybe that question, state wide, needs to be addressed.

Milton will check to see if community colleges have any oversight and who oversees them. He will bring some background information to the next meeting.

Steve said he wants any issues for the next agenda from the committee by February 8<sup>th</sup>, so he can prepare the agenda and get it out to the committee before the meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup>.

Allen asked if there is some kind of rubric available or could one be developed for the next series of reviews. It would be helpful to have them as a guideline.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, February 16, 2005 at 3:00 p.m. in JB-287.

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