

GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING Minutes – January 24, 2008

The General Education Committee met on Thursday, Jan 24, 2008, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. in the Administration Building, Room 244.

Members Present: : Elizabeth Hall (Provost's Office, ex-officio), Sue Jones (Official Publications), Dorothy Chansky (Visual and Performing Arts), Frank Durso (Arts & Sciences), Gary Elbow (Honors), Miles Kimball (Arts & Sciences, Faculty Senate) , Tom Kimball (Human Sciences), Linda Krefting (Business Administration), Roger Saathoff (Mass Communications), Ray Desrosiers (presiding).

Members Not Present: Ernest Fish (Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources), David Lamp (Arts & Sciences), Comfort Pratt (Education), Ben Shacklette (Architecture).

I. Announcements

- **Proposed spring schedule of GEC meetings:** due to the urgency of the SACS accreditation issue and the increased work load that looms, an attempt was made to find a time when the committee could meet for at least two hours rather than our usual one hour. This attempt was not successful. The GEC will return to meeting at its usual time of noon on Wednesdays. Meetings will be called as necessary. The next meeting is on W, Feb 6. Location will be announced when the reservation has been confirmed by B. Lynch.
- **Virtual meetings:** all member names have been registered with a WebCT “course” entitled General Education Committee. The site (<http://webct.tlc.ttu.edu/>) features
 - i. A Documents page upon which are posted links to sources relevant to core curriculum assessment.
 - ii. A Discussion forum to which members of the GEC and other committees of the Core Competency task force may post messages.
 - iii. A set of chat rooms which can be used for virtual meetings when a subcommittee wishes to accomplish some collective deliberation in real time but find it impractical to physically meet.
- **Presentation by Valerie Paton on the Core Competency Teams:** teams composed of faculty and staff from across the campus have been organized in each of the seven core categories (A-G) and Multicultural and Foreign Languages. A calendar and membership list for the Core Competency Teams were distributed. Each team is tasked with developing learning objectives and assessment methods for its category (in addition to other tasks). These first two tasks are scheduled to be completed in two weeks. Members of the GEC participating in the core competency teams: Chansky(Vis & Perf Arts), Elbow(Tech & App Sci), Krefting (Multicultural), Lamp (Nat Sci), Desrosiers(Mathematics).
- **Additional ex-officio members:** Sue Jones (Official Publications) will attend GEC meetings this term to advise the committee on issues related to the university catalog. Elizabeth Hall will represent the Provost’s office.
- **Policy regarding renumbered courses:** Sue Jones requested confirmation of an existing GEC policy regarding core courses which are renumbered by their home departments. The policy requires that the course be submitted under its new number for GEC approval.

II. New Business

- **Deferment of course reviews:** the committee decided to defer further review of core courses until the core competency teams have completed their first two tasks.
- **Implementation of the Prerequisite Policy:** the GEC has instituted a review cycle in which all core categories would be reviewed every five years. That policy is still in place, but due to the SACS issue, an initial review of the entire core will be undertaken this term. During the next two weeks, subcommittees of the GEC will examine the courses listed in the 2007-08 catalog in categories D. Tech & App Sci, E. Humanities, F. Vis & Perf Arts, and G. Social & Behavioral Sci and report to the full committee at its next meeting concerning which courses have prerequisites which are core courses and satisfy the category. The coordinators for these categories are: D:- Elbow, E:- M.Kimball, F:- Chansky, G:- Fish.