

GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Minutes

Nov. 20, 2002

The General Education Committee met on Wednesday, Nov. 20, 2002, from Noon to 1 p.m. in the Provost's Conference Room.

Members Present: Bolch (Honors), Brink (Provost's Office, ex-officio), Clopton (Arts & Sciences), Elrod (Visual & Performing Arts), Gustafson (Human Sciences), Halsey (Faculty Senate), Krefting (Business Administration, presiding), Roach (Arts & Sciences), Thomas (Education).

Members Excused: Desrosiers (Engineering), Fish (Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources), Lamp (Arts & Sciences), Shacklette (Architecture)

1. Minutes for the meeting on 10/16/2002. Approved by consensus with a spelling correction.
2. SPAN 3390, Hispanic Culture and Civilization. Clopton moved and Bolch seconded approval for the Multicultural category. Motion passed unanimously.
3. IR/IM Report on Core Courses. Degree audits for the 20,709 students who graduated between Dec. 1996 and August 2002 identified 10 courses in the current Core that no student used to meet Core requirements. Bolch moved with a second from Gustafson that these courses be removed from the Core for the next catalog unless the relevant department provides compelling reasons for retention. Motion passed unanimously. Krefting to review the 10 courses, delete any recently added to the Core (e.g., NHH 1301), and draft a memo the Provost can send to relevant departments. The Committee did not recommend removal of courses counted for few students in the Multicultural category, which is outside the state-mandated Core and where offering a wide range of courses is consistent with the philosophy of the requirement.
4. Review of Oral Communication Courses. Syllabi for Ch E 2306, COMS 2300, COMS 3358, HDFS 2320, MGT 3373 and PE 3308 were reviewed. There was sufficient information on all but PE 3308 to determine the number of formal presentations made in each class. Preliminary discussion of standards for evaluating oral communication courses suggested there should be at least 2 formal, individual presentations with instruction on presentations and feedback on performance and that these presentations should comprise a major portion of the course grade. Discussion of standards will carry over to the next meeting.
5. Next meeting: Jan. 22, 2003, Noon to 1:00 p.m., Provost's Conference Room (subject to availability).