GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING
Agenda – January 18, 2006

The General Education Committee met on Wednesday, January 18, 2006, from Noon to 1 p.m. in the Provost's Conference Room.

Members Present: Jim Brink (Provost's Office, ex-officio), Dorothy Chansky (Visual and Performing Arts), Frank Durso (Arts & Sciences), Gary Elbow (Honors), Ray Desrosiers (Engineering), Ernest Fish (Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources), Linda Krefting (Business Administration), David Lamp (Arts & Sciences), Mellinee Lesley (Education), Charles Myles (Faculty Senate), Roger Saathoff (Mass Communications), Ben Shacklette (Architecture), David Roach (Arts & Sciences, presiding).

Members Absent: Tom Kimball (Human Sciences)

1. Announcements.
   * Meetings Spring 2006 semester:
          January 18
          February 15
          March 22
          April 19
          May – only if emergency
   * New Practice – GEC minutes now to be sent to all Associate Deans
   * Roach elected as chair of committee

2. Review of minutes from the last meeting.
      Minutes were reviewed and approved.

3. Old Business –
   Questions from Sue Jones
    a. Do we put the Core and multicultural courses into the inventory system immediately after you make a decision or do we wait until some point in the spring so that the decision is effective for the next fall and students know the decision when they register? If we wait until spring, when in the spring do we physically input the information into the registration system? ***Committee decided that upon Provost approval, that changes would be effective immediately.***

    b. Is SOC 4395 part of the Core or an exception (see top left of page 46 in catalog)?
       Background: Roach checked with Paul Johnson, chair of SASW, and he said: SOC 4395 is a capstone course, put in place as a new course; it doesn't replace any other course; he would be surprised if anyone needed to use it to fulfill a core requirement. SOC 4391 no longer exists. ***Committee decided that the top of page 46 should read "All sociology advanced courses except SOC 3391." SOC 4395 should not be included in the list of courses that fulfill core requirements in this category.***

      Other
    c. Course proposal from IE that IE 2331 Professional Communication for Engineers be approved to fulfill the oral communication core requirement. ***This proposal is not in the proper form and has not yet gone through proper college channels. Roach will contact Jeff Woldstad, Associate Dean of Engineering, and let him know the format and needed materials for a proposal.***

4. New Business
   * Course proposal from Civil Engineering that ENGR 4392 Engineering Ethics and its Relationship to Society be designated as Humanities Core course, a Multicultural course, and a Writing Intensive course. **This proposal is not yet official so discussion is tabled at this point.**

5. Writing Issue – Issue discussed that some students are able to complete undergraduate degree at TTU without having had to write a paper. Discussion regarding examples and safe guards against this. Idea discussed about trying to see if money is available to have faculty members trained by Writing Center to better, more accurately grade student writing.

NOTE THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURES FOR PROPOSALS
TO THE GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

- Proposals for changes in the Core Curriculum must come to the General Education Committee (GEC) from the office of the dean of the originating college and with an indication of the dean's approval. Proposals not bearing the approval of the dean's office will be returned to the college without action.

- Proposals to add or delete a course from the Core must be accompanied by a current syllabus and may have additional supporting materials. <u>Proposals must include a course description, course objectives, learning outcomes/assessments, and must clearly demonstrate how the proposed course fits the Core Curriculum category objectives</u>. Proposals not accompanied by a syllabus will be returned to the college without action.

- To ensure that proposals are considered at a meeting of the GEC, they should arrive in the Provost's office (attention Brink) no later than the beginning of the month during which they will come before the GEC. Proposals that do not arrive by this deadline may be considered, depending on the number of items on the agenda for the meeting. If late proposals cannot be included on the agenda for the meeting, they will be considered at the next meeting.

- Sponsorship of proposals is done by the GEC representative of the originating college. The presence of additional sponsors is neither necessary nor desirable unless specifically invited by the committee. GEC recommends that proposers consult with their college's representative on the GEC.