Augustana College Rock Island, IL

Amended Minutes
General Education Committee Meeting
February 9, 2011
Olin 304
4:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 4:02

Members present: Stefanie Bluemle, Lendol Calder, Mike Egan, Alli Haskill, Ellen Hay, Carrie Hough, Virginia Johnson, Brian Katz, Anna Knepler, Jason Koontz, Joe McDowell

Agenda Item I: Approval of the Minutes

The committee briefly discussed the continuing problem of retrieving Gen Ed minutes from Google Documents; Alli will ask ITS for help.

[No Motion or second was asked for]

Committee approved the minutes of January 26, 2011.

Agenda Item II: New Business - Gen Ed Reform

The committee talked about its preparation plans for the spring term discussion of 6/35 committee's draft proposal and ultimate spring faculty meeting with the 6/35 committee. The first part of the discussion focused on Joe, as 6/35 representative and Gen Ed member, clarifying aspects of the draft proposal including the change from counting credit hours to counting course units, the removal of enrollment ceilings for departments, the reform discussion proceeding without a vote on calendar configuration, the fact that course units will carry the same minute-time as credit hours, confirmation that the 12-course limit does not include foreign language requirements, and the 6/35 committee's intention that implementation of the changes to the academic program will be phased in. Joe asserted that the Gen Ed committee continues to be a clearinghouse for the realignment of courses under the draft proposal. The second part of the Gen Ed committee's discussion focused on how the Gen Ed committee would prepare for its part in the spring discussion. Alli confirmed with Joe that the committee should move forward assuming a trimester calendar. The committee created a "wish list" for its presentation. They agreed to provide rationales for already made decisions concerning D, G and I suffixes. Further they agreed to report the thoughts of each of the subcommittees. Alli proposed that each subcommittee prepare some its findings to share with the larger committee by the meeting of week two, spring term. Ellen asked if the Gen Ed committee should ask the faculty at the 6/35 meeting to vote on two options for reducing Gen Ed, but Lendol and others agreed that the faculty should probably not be asked to vote on too many things at the same meeting. Alli proposed that the committee wait to actually reform Gen Ed until after the 6/35 vote, but that in the meantime the committee can reassure the 6/35 committee and the faculty that Gen Ed requirements can be reduced to 12 courses.

Due to early adjournment, Gen Ed Reform subcommittees were invited to meet during the remaining time. The meeting adjourned at 4:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia Johnson