

**GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**1/13/2010**  
**Olin 304**

The meeting was called to order at 5:04 PM.

**Members present:** Tom Bengtson, Margaret Farrar, Mariano Magalhaes, Allen Bertsche, Karin Youngberg, Fred Whiteside, Virginia Johnson, Amanda Beveroth, Anne Earel, Ashley Booth, Randall Hall, Kristin Douglas, Alli Haskill, Joe McDowell, Dan Lee, and Josh Morgan.

**AGENDA ITEM I: APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion to approve minutes from the 12/16/09 meeting; DELAYED UNTIL NEXT WEEK

**AGENDA ITEM II: NEW BUSINESS**

A. "D" Suffix approval for WLIT235 History and Technique of Film (Keesen) DECLINED

Motion to reconsider the D suffix for the above referenced course; 1- Josh; 2- Mariano

*Discussion:*

Kristin provided a review of concerns expressed the first time a "D" proposal for this course was brought before gen ed: In many D courses, there is typically one aspect of diversity addressed, but this course presents a different model than most previously approved D courses in that multiple forms of diversity are covered. The committee asked Dr. Keesen to consider the committee's feedback and revise and resubmit her proposal to address the concerns.

In her revised proposal, Dr. Keesen provided a rationale for her film choices (previous committee member feedback included concerns that white filmmakers' portrayal of issues related to diversity may not provide authentic means for students to learn about various groups of individuals.)

A member asked how the committee feels about courses such as this that cover multiple forms or aspects of diversity. Joe pointed out that our "D" guidelines indicate that courses that address multiple groups or issues are acceptable.

B. Update from Academic Affairs

A proposal for Reuben and Kevin's pilot immersion course to be taught in the 2010-2011 school year will be forthcoming will include an application for PN, I, and LC.

The Teagle III grant proposal calls for a variety of pilot programs for high impact learning experiences. There soon will be an open call for such courses. Besides immersion courses, there are other opportunities: blended learning opportunities (e.g., pod casts and lecture); service learning. Academic Affairs is open to a variety of models and does not want to be too prescriptive in specifying what possible models will look like. The gen ed committee and individual majors need to consider how innovative courses and models may impact teaching load.

As indicated in Margaret's recent campus emails, there is a continued need for additional LSFY and LC courses to be offered next year. See the supplemental handout, "LSFY and LC offerings for 2010-11 as of January 13,

2010.” The number of sections needed is based on our target class size (650-680 students) and a course cap of 22-24.

When we have future conversations about LSFY, we need to keep these numbers in mind. The good news is that because of Evergreen II, several LCs have been designed.

LSFY 101 is not as much a concern as 102 and 103 because those sections can be staffed by Iowa fellows or adjuncts, however, funding may be limited. The outlook for LSFY 102 and 103 is more of a concern.

If we restructure LSFY, the changes would go into effect in the 2011-2012 school year.

### C. Service Learning Guidelines

Motion to approve the revised document, “Service Learning Communities: Guidelines from the General Education Committee”; 1- Joe; 2- Randall; APPROVED

### D. Curriculum Taskforce Update

Kristin presented a draft of a memo to be sent to the curriculum taskforce about possibilities (NOT A FORMAL PROPOSAL) for reducing gen ed to be more in line with peer and aspirant schools. In our current model, we would need to reduce our gen ed requirements by 3 courses, likely not including LCs, given the broad faculty support for LCs that was expressed earlier this year.

Dan explained that he would be more comfortable aiming for gen ed requirements to comprise 33%, not 30% that was recommended in the memo draft.

Fred: What about our foreign language and PE requirement?

Allen, Kristin, and Margaret: Including foreign language and PE courses would increase our percentage of gen ed courses to 39% of graduation requirements. Approximately 40% of our students come to Augie with 4 years of a foreign language in high school and thus, do not take foreign language courses here. The majority of the other students start foreign language beyond 101 level foreign language courses. Foreign language requirements were not factored into this document.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

New business items for the rest of the term: Kristin would like to devote one or two future meetings to thinking about LSFY courses. Before our next meeting, Margaret will circulate to committee members a compilation of feedback from faculty members.

The next meeting is scheduled for Jan. 20, 2010.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:57.

