

**GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
October 8, 2008
Old Main 128**

Members Present: Allen Bertsche, Kristin Douglas, Anne Earel, Randall Hall, Virginia Johnson, Mary Koski, Emil Kramer, Nancy Loitz, Mariano Magalhães, Joe McDowell, Aaron Schroeder, Steve Warren, Fred Whiteside

The meeting came to order at 4:30 PM.

I MINUTES

Motion-McDowell, **Second**- Magalhães **APPROVED**

“To approve the minutes of the October 1, 2008 General Education Committee meeting as amended.”

II OLD BUSINESS

A. LSFY Prerequisite Question

Nancy met with the LS coordinators to discuss whether students should be required to pass each course in the sequence before enrolling in the next. That group recommends that LSFY 101 be designated as a prerequisite for LSFY 102 and that LSFY 102 be designated as a prerequisite for LSFY 103. This would require that we provide at least one section of LSFY 101 in the winter, one LSFY 102 in the spring and one LSFY 103 in the fall. Proposed is LSFY 101 in winter; 102 in spring and 103 in fall. Nancy also brought this issue up with the Academic Affairs Committee. Nancy will craft language for a proposal.

B. G & D Update

Nancy informed AAC that Gen Ed was working on writing up a proposal to redefine the G and D suffixes and to present them to the faculty via a faculty forum. The faculty forum would also include the topics of the new Learning Community proposal endorsement and the LSFY prerequisite proposal. All three topics would be presented at the same meeting. If the response to the proposals at the forum is positive, official votes are required from the full faculty in order to implement these proposals.

Joe handed out his first draft G-D proposal on new language, taking into consideration Adam Kaul, Carrie Hough and Chris Whitt’s comments. He received few comments at of the time of this meeting, and encouraged Gen Ed members to send him their feedback.

Several discussions followed re: Should they be re-labeled as G = global; D = domestic? Could a D suffix have either U.S. Diversity or Global Diversity? Could a seventh learning perspective in diversity be offered which required students to take two classes from this area? The subcommittee will take these discussions into consideration as they move ahead in drafting new definitions.

C. Honors as Learning Community

The committee revisited the notion of giving LC credit to students who complete the entire Honors sequence. The idea has the support of the Honors Committee and Liesl Fowler. If students complete the first year Honors sequence, the second year Honors class and the capstone, they will have taken the same number of requisite courses as non-honors students do to fulfill the same requirements. Aaron offered his opinion that the capstone is not part of the “community” of honors and therefore should not be required in order for the LC to be granted. Nancy is concerned that the various ways that LCs are met are equitable—honors students should not be able to fulfill the requirement with fewer courses. It was also noted that the capstone is interdisciplinary in nature—fulfilling another of the LC goals. What to do? Joe made a motion:

Motion-McDowell, Second-Johnson TABLED

“To recommend that the completion of the Honors Program, including Capstone, be counted as a Learning Community.”

The committee continued to consider consequences of this change. Would the number of capstone projects increase significantly? How would faculty load be affected? Can students “double dip” SI projects with Honors capstones? Joe will check with the Honors committee to see if there is indeed overlap in these projects. Nancy will also raise this with AAC and EPC. We will discuss it again at a future meeting. Motion was tabled and will be taken up at a future meeting.

III ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. LSFY 102 Syllabi Update

All the converted and new LS course syllabi will be submitted to Gen Ed for their review.

The meeting adjourned at 5:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Koski