

**GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
December 3, 2008  
Old Main 128**

**Members Present:** Faria Ahmed, Allen Bertsche, Kristin Douglas, S. A. Fenwick, Randall Hall, Virginia Johnson, Mary Koski, Emil Kramer, Nancy Loitz, Joe McDowell, Rowen Schussheim-Anderson, Steve Warren, Fred Whiteside

**Guest:** Michael Nolan

The meeting came to order at 4:30 PM.

**AGENDA ITEM I – APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Motion-Schussheim-Anderson, Second-Kramer APPROVED**

**“To approve the minutes of the November 19, 2008 General Education Committee meeting as presented.”**

**AGENDA ITEM II- NEW BUSINESS**

A. Assessment – Mike Nolan handed out some preliminary ideas for assessment of AGES learning perspectives, seeking Gen Ed’s input. Concerns: Lack of clarity about what “assessment” really means. Are we assessing students or courses? Is there one set of criteria for all LPs? Could assessment be done on a course-by-course basis? The Gen Ed Committee felt that they were not prepared at this time to guide the Assessment Committee. They asked that Draft 8 be emailed to the committee and this item will be put on the next agenda.

B. Learning Community Proposal Form

The changes made by EPC need to be incorporated into this new LC Proposal Form.

**Motion-McDowell, Second-Kramer APPROVED**

**“To approve the LC Proposal Form incorporating the changes made by EPC as follows: Removal of 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> bullets from “Describe the common components....” and move them to a new section to be added on the form entitled “Suggested Components”.**

C. Student Survey – Fall Term LSFY-HONR

The results of the Fall Term LSFY/HONR student survey was presented for information only.

Student reported growth has increased significantly since the beginning of the program, except in the area of ability to read difficult material. The program appears to be moving in the right direction. The winter term survey may not show as much improvement since students will be enrolled in wider variety of classes—an area of concern for students in the past. Comments in first couple years were 1/3 positive and 2/3 negative. These are about 1/3 negative and 2/3 positive! Perhaps the skills matrix developed last year has helped. A suggestion was made to share the matrix with students, perhaps as part of the LSFY syllabi.

D. Diedre Liest Petition

Nancy recommended asking Peter to submit paperwork effective next term, and once that has been done, grant her petition.

**Motion-McDowell, Second-Warren**

Move that we grant her petition to be given a 'G' suffix for SOC 380."

The motion was amended and **APPROVED** as follows:

**"That Diedre Leist be granted her petition to be given a 'G' suffix for SOC 308 pending the submission and approval of a "G" suffix request by the instructor."**

E. Learning Perspective/Suffix Requests and Learning Community Request

These items were TABLED until the next meeting, as several members were not able to print the documents satisfactorily.

### **AGENDA ITEM III - OLD BUSINESS**

A. Holden Proposal

Nancy informed the committee that they have been asked to consider granting LC credit to all future programs at Holden the same way that all foreign terms count as a learning community. It was asked if Holden terms meet the requirements of a learning community. They may or may not, as is the case with many international terms. The committee suggested that the dean be asked to assign a committee to write up criteria for a domestic term umbrella LC. Alternatively, he could broaden the definition of international terms to include domestic terms. One concern the International Committee had about Holden, was that they are accustomed to approving the whole integration of a foreign term, evaluating the site, the faculty, the course, the entire picture. A member of both the international committee and Gen Ed reported that the international committee would not have approved Holden because those terms do not go through the same process to gain approval (selection of a director, for example). The committee felt that there needs to be an infrastructure for off-campus learning communities. Who should do this? Perhaps CVR for service learning. But they don't look at international term. Administration needs to work with faculty to make model for off-campus experiences.

**Motion-Fenwick, Second-Warren APPROVED TO SEND BACK TO THE DEAN**

**"To send the Holden Term back to Dean Abernathy with a suggestion that guidelines be created and an approval system determined for domestic terms."**

B. Evergreen Proposal

EPC made a couple minor revisions to the proposal and is here before Gen Ed to review those changes. The Gen Ed committee had no objection to the changes made.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Koski