

General Education Committee Minutes

January 20, 2004

Present: Randall Gloege James Nowlin
Squy Wallace Mark Hardt
Sandie Rietz – *ex-officio*

Absent: St. John Robinson – *excused* Michael Dennis – *excused*

Cathey White – *ex-officio*
John Cech – *ex-officio*
Randy Rhine – *ex-officio*
Joe Michels – *ex-officio*
Curt Kochner – *ex-officio*

Dan Zirker – *ex-officio*
George White – *ex-officio*
Janie Park – *ex-officio*

Presiding: Mark Hardt, Chair

Mark Hardt called the meeting to order at 3:36 p.m. in the Missouri room of the SUB.

The minutes of November 25 were accepted as presented.

It was noted that St. John Robinson will be unable to serve on the committee, as he has too many other commitments right now. Some replacements will be approached.

Dr. Hardt passed out a memo that would be sent to all faculty explaining the matrix and what the committee has been doing. He noted that it would be best to attach a copy of the matrix to the memo.

It was cited that aesthetics still need to be added to the matrix. It was cited that the matrix is potentially ignoring an entire segment of the campus.

It was noted that if the committee starts adding to the matrix, departments across campus may start saying that they were not included in the matrix, leading to more additions, which will eventually lead to a tool that is much too large and therefore useless.

It was argued that aesthetics are implied throughout the matrix. Perhaps we could send out the matrix and our entire proposal and see if we get a big response that aesthetics are not in the matrix. We can then change it at that time. It was noted that waiting that long will make changing anything much more difficult.

It was noted that there are two options for adding aesthetics: add a new section to the matrix, or add words throughout the matrix to expand all sections somewhat.

It was noted that adding a new section to the matrix would be easier than revising the entire document. However, it was noted that adding a whole section could leave the committee vulnerable to demands from all sides to add to the matrix, resulting in something that is too large.

It was noted that if faculty involved in aesthetics try to fill in the matrix for their course and find that they do not fit, we will have a problem.

It was noted that the committee still has to create an assessment component for students to fill in. It was noted that a capstone course that causes students to synthesize in any way will be the assessment component.

It was decided that adding aesthetics will be “pitched” to a few faculty to get their reactions on the matrix. Does it imply aesthetics, or does more need to be added? If so, how?

It was also noted that the committee has a rather incomplete proposal before the Academic Senate in two days. It was decided that proposal should be pulled for now.

The meeting adjourned at 4:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Rita J. Rabe Meduna