General Education Committee Minutes

October 28, 2003

Present: Mark Hardt Randall Gloege

St. John Robinson James Nowlin

Squy Wallace Cathey White – ex-officio

Absent: Michael Dennis – excused Sandie Rietz – ex-officio

Dan Zirker - ex-officioJohn Cech - ex-officioRandy Rhine - ex-officioGeorge White - ex-officioJoe Michels - ex-officioJanie Park - ex-officio

Curt Kochner – ex-officio

Presiding: Mark Hardt, Chair

Mark Hardt called the meeting to order at 3:40 p.m. in the Library 3rd floor Conference Room.

I. Discussion

A. Debrief – Arts and Sciences Curriculum Council

It was noted that the outcomes matrix does not have a category for aesthetics/creativity. Dean Zirker has asked Gary Behm to come up with a proposal to add to the matrix.

It was noted that if the Gen Ed Committee works with the CAS Curriculum Council, we will be at both the beginning and end of the process, and we will need to make a new process resolution. It was cited that working with the CAS Curriculum Council would be a strictly unofficial arrangement, with the purpose of generating the Academic Foundations courses as a package rather than piecemeal courses. It was noted that we should not meet with all departments, but only with those who request help.

Putting all the courses together at the Gen Ed Committee level may result in the same unrelated pile of courses we currently have. It was also noted that we have to offer enough courses so students can complete the Academic Foundations Program. Too few, and there will not be enough seats available in all the courses to satisfy degree requirements. It was noted that we have not set a limit to how many courses will be allowed in the Academic Foundations Program. Sixty has been suggested, but not set in stone. It was noted that the CAS Curriculum Council should be able to work out the staffing issues, since they are working on a package rather than separately.

It was noted that submissions may still come from the other colleges as well, and a mechanism should be established to incorporate those courses into the "package."

The question was raised as to whether there will be any funding for the new Academic Foundations Program. There will probably not be any extra funds, but that and other issues should be discussed with Dr. Park. It was decided that the Committee should meet with Dr. Park to discuss their progress and support (money or otherwise) from the Provost.

The meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Rita J. Rabe Meduna