

**General Education Committee
Minutes**

March 16, 2004

Present:	Mark Hardt Michael Dennis	Connie Landis Sandie Rietz
Absent:	Randall Gloege – <i>excused</i> Squy Wallace – <i>excused</i>	James Nowlin – <i>excused</i>
	Cathey White – <i>ex-officio</i> Tasneem Khaleel – <i>ex-officio</i> George White – <i>ex-officio</i> Carl Hanson – <i>ex-officio</i> Curt Kochner – <i>ex-officio</i>	John Cech – <i>ex-officio</i> Randy Rhine – <i>ex-officio</i> Joe Michels – <i>ex-officio</i> Janie Park – <i>ex-officio</i>
Presiding:	Mark Hardt, Chair	

Mark Hardt called the meeting to order at 3:38 p.m. in the Lewis & Clark room of the SUB.

The minutes of March 2 were accepted as presented.

It was noted that if the same exact courses are submitted for Academic Foundations, the UCC would not need to review them. If the course has not changed, then it is already approved for the catalog.

It was noted that Step 1 for us is to get this proposed structure approved, which includes the original goals of the committee: focus and reduction of the “menu” of offered courses. Discussion of courses, double counting, and integrated courses will be part of Step 2. More integrated courses may only be obtainable through the collaboration of a Gen Ed/Academic Foundations Core Faculty, and formation of that group is also in the future.

It was noted that if we take a stand against double counting, many programs will have to be reorganized. We can be more flexible in the beginning, giving departments a chance to change what they need to change.

It was cited that this first round of submissions will be the same courses that were offered before, but faculty need to know there will be a second round of submissions that can and will be more integrated courses. This could even be a biennial process, reviewing the current and proposed Academic Foundations courses.

It is important to emphasize to the faculty that double counting and integrated courses are issues that still need to be discussed.

It was noted that the Oral Communications category is now gone, but some majors still need a course in it. It was noted that those departments could meet with Communication & Theatre to develop an upper level course specifically for their majors. It was noted, however, that many courses should already have a public speaking component in them. It was cited that **nothing has been decided in the way of course submissions**. Public Speaking may end up being a course in Global Academic Skills. We just don't know yet.

It was stated that we have gotten only this far: changing the name and structure of Gen Ed and scrapping all current courses and resubmitting them. The next steps are still in the works.

It was noted that the faculty don't vote on this proposal at the General Faculty Meeting (March 30, 3:40 pm, LI 148). The Academic Senate will vote on the proposal.

Bylaws

It was noted that if we are to review all these course proposals, the committee should probably be a bit larger, but still with a large number of Arts & Sciences representatives.

It was noted that the process of course submission and acceptance/denial should be part of the bylaws—i.e. a set of operating procedures

It was noted that as part of those operating procedures, there should be a rule that if submissions come from a Committee member's area, that member should excuse her- or himself from voting.

It was cited that while the departments are working on their submissions, the Committee can formulate the operating procedures.

The meeting adjourned at 4:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Rita J. Rabe Meduna.