

**General Education Committee
Minutes**

September 16, 2003

Present:	Mark Hardt St. John Robinson James Nowlin Cathey White – <i>ex-officio</i>	Randall Gloege Michael Dennis Squy Wallace
Absent:	Dan Zirker – <i>ex-officio</i> Randy Rhine – <i>ex-officio</i> Joe Michels – <i>ex-officio</i> Curt Kochner – <i>ex-officio</i>	John Cech – <i>ex-officio</i> George White – <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 Library 3rd floor Conference Room.

I. New Business

It was noted that the Committee should meet with the English & Philosophy Department and the Mathematics Department about their possible implications. It was cited that the Committee can take what it currently has to the departments and state that any part can be revised.

It was then proposed that math and composition be combined into one category worth 6 credits. This would require students to pass ENGL 150 before taking a more advanced writing class in the Academic Foundations program. It was noted that the English Department will still have to teach all the students in ENGL 100 and 150, so it should not hurt the department.

It was noted that ENGL 150 is a prerequisite for ENGL 226, but many students still get into 226 without ever taking 150. The prerequisite system needs work.

The idea would be that students have to take Class X (a writing course) in order to complete Academic Foundations. The students can take ENGL 100 and 150 to prepare, but they still have to pass Class X.

It was noted that writing courses need to be taken early on, and advisors will need training on the new Academic Foundations program.

- Amended Motion by Michael Dennis, seconded by James Nowlin to combine the two categories of Mathematics and Composition into one category called Fundamental Skills for 6 credits. This combination will require students to demonstrate competence in ENGL 150 before admission to the Academic Foundations Program.

- Motion carried with one abstention.

It was noted that the Student Evaluations are nothing more than popularity contests. They need to be revised to provide more useful information, but they should not affect faculty members' career to the degree they do now.

The Mathematics and English & Philosophy Departments should be invited to the next few Gen Ed Committee meetings.

Draft of Letter From Dr. Janie Park, Provost

The Committee, after reviewing a draft of the letter, stated they need a more proactive letter. The Provost needs to state that she fully supports the work of the Committee.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Rita J. Rabe Meduna