

**Academic Foundations Committee
Minutes**

October 19, 2004

Present:	Mark Hardt Connie Landis Noreen Lee Lewis Rife – <i>ex-officio</i>	Randall Gloege Susan Gilbertz James Nowlin James Ryan – <i>ex-officio</i>
Absent:	Abbas Heiat – <i>excused</i> Carl Hanson – <i>ex-officio</i> John Cech – <i>ex-officio</i> George White – <i>ex-officio</i> Janie Park – <i>ex-officio</i>	Barb Pedula Tasneem Khaleel – <i>ex-officio</i> Randy Rhine – <i>ex-officio</i> Joe Michels – <i>ex-officio</i> Curt Kochner – <i>ex-officio</i>
Presiding:	Noreen Lee, Chair Alternate	

Noreen Lee called the meeting to order in the Madison room of the SUB.

The minutes of October 12 were accepted as presented.

I. Meeting with Dean Khaleel

Susan Gilbertz, Randall Gloege, Mark Hardt and Connie Landis reported on the meeting. The discussion was the concern over the issue of having a General Studies minor. There was confusion as to whether the committee had ever even voted on it. The Dean indicated that this is definitely not something that they want to pursue. The chairs think it would be a proliferation of programs. The reason it was ever brought up in the first place was to possibly give students an expanded view of their education. The concern from the chairs is that a minor is designed to clarify a student's area of interest. A student is not required to have a minor, so they can take more courses that they are interested in without a minor, if that is what they choose. Also, Dr. Khaleel mentioned that a general studies minor could possibly take away from other programs.

- Motion by James Nowlin, seconded by Noreen Lee to let the General Studies Minor stand as it is.

- Motion failed: 1 for, 4 against, 1 abstention.

II. Course Submissions

The Committee discussed the authority to approve the Academic Foundations courses. The chairs want courses submitted as a package from each department. The committee is supposed to design the parameters and the chairs need to operate within those parameters. The Arts and Sciences have had the majority of submissions historically. To encourage

submissions from all of the colleges, it will be recommended that the committee put out a set of instructions to each department. The departments will be instructed to submit 6-8 courses for each Academic Foundations category with the understanding that some of the submitted courses will get tossed out. If a department doesn't have enough to submit 6-8 or none at all, they don't have to worry about that category. It was mentioned that maybe they need to re-visit some of the categories (i.e. History and Cultural Diversity) as they may be too limiting. It was mentioned that the categories come directly from the Board of Regents and may not be able to be changed.

Respectfully submitted, Beth Oswald and Rita J. Rabe Meduna.