

**Academic Foundations Committee
Minutes**

October 26, 2004

Present:	Mark Hardt Connie Landis Noreen Lee Abbas Heiat Amanda Mears – <i>ex-officio</i>	Randall Gloege Susan Gilbertz James Nowlin Barb Pedula Lewis Rife – <i>ex-officio</i>
Absent:	Carl Hanson – <i>ex-officio</i> John Cech – <i>ex-officio</i> George White – <i>ex-officio</i> Janie Park – <i>ex-officio</i>	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 at 3:46 p.m. in the Madison room of the SUB.

I. New Membership Needed

Work is in progress on getting a member from the Natural Sciences.

II. Discussion/Action Items

A. Guidelines for Departments

It was noted that at the last meeting there was discussion of splitting History and Cultural Diversity into two categories, but there was no vote. It was cited that changing the package this late in the game will only add confusion because departments have already started working on their proposed courses. It was observed that the categories need to be further clarified.

It was stated that we don't want to significantly limit the courses students can take. It was noted that we are trying to create the fundamentals every student needs, not a variety of courses or we will be back to what we have now: the smorgasbord.

It was cited that departments need to have an idea of how many courses they should submit for each category. It was noted that we could set a limit that we will accept 20 proposals per category, and those can come from anywhere. It was stated that if we use that rule, we will get 20 proposals for each category from each college.

It was noted that we still have to decide what criteria will be used to include and exclude proposed courses for Academic Foundations.

It was remarked that double counting is still an unresolved issue, and departments need to have some kind of solution before they submit their courses. It was noted that with the exception of the Environmental Studies program, double counting won't really be an issue in the Academic Foundations program. It was also noted that hidden prerequisites must be avoided in the program. It was noted that we can't ban double counting now, but once the University gets used to the Academic Foundations program, double counting may become a thing of the past.

- Motion by Susan Gilbertz, seconded by James Nowlin to include in the instructions to departments that each college can submit up to 10 courses per Academic Foundations category for review by this Committee.

- Motion carried, 1 against.

It was noted that the voting rights of students were removed this summer. It was noted that this Committee works with long-term issues, and students may have a short-term view. It was stated that the bylaws were changed without notice to the students. A compromise would be instead of both students voting, only one student would vote.

The meeting adjourned at 4:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Rita J. Rabe Meduna.