

**Academic Foundations Committee
Minutes**

September 13, 2005

Present:	Randall Gloege Susan Gilbertz Noreen Lee Bruce Brumley	Mark Hardt Connie Landis Abbas Heiat
Absent:	Sandie Rietz – <i>excused</i> Russ Lord – <i>ex-officio</i> John Cech – <i>ex-officio</i> Mary Susan Fishbaugh – <i>ex-officio</i> George White – <i>ex-officio</i>	Tasneem Khaleel – <i>ex-officio</i> Kirk Lacy – <i>ex-officio</i> Joe Michels – <i>ex-officio</i> Curt Kochner – <i>ex-officio</i>
Presiding:	Mark Hardt, Chair	

Mark Hardt called the meeting to order at 3:45 p.m. in the Bridger room of the SUB.

The minutes of April 5 were accepted as presented.

I. Discussion/Action Items

It was noted that we have a new Provost, and there may be increased pressure to implement an assessment instrument sooner. However, it is premature at this time to worry about assessment. We must get this program started and then tailor the assessment to the experience.

A. Officers

Mark Hardt stated that he would like to remain chair through implementation.

- Motion by Randall Gloege, seconded by Abbas Heiat that the Committee encourages Dr. Hardt to continue as chair of the Committee.

- Motion carried.

Connie Landis volunteered to be chair alternate.

B. Information Literacy Course: Possible Acceptance

Dr. Landis stated that she was quite impressed with the Information Literacy course submission. The course is quite interesting, but we must follow our process.

It was noted that some people in the College of Arts and Sciences are strongly opposed to the Information Literacy Category, and so they didn't want to include the course in their package. We are in a bind procedurally to include this course, but we can send the package on without the information literacy course to the Senate and note that the Committee wanted to see the information literacy course. The Senate may choose to bring it forward and then we would not violate our policy.

It was noted that the deadline has passed, so if the Library does want the information literacy course included they will have to resubmit it later, as this is an ongoing process.

It was cited that the College of Business did not submit any courses last spring. They did have a change of chairperson in the department, so the new chair, Mike Campbell, asked for an extension this summer. At this point the College has still not submitted anything, so it's too late now.

It was observed that we should get some clarification of what the Board of Regents did this summer with minimum course grades and transfer of general education. It was noted that the BOR Core Requirements for general education are only 30 credits, while ours is still 37. It won't be long until students figure out that it's cheaper to finish their general education by transferring away—they will only have to take 30 credits. It was stated that at some point in the future, the Senate may ask us to cut Academic Foundations to 30 credits. It was further noted that it is extremely difficult for COT students to transfer to the main campus; in fact, it's easier for the COT students to transfer to Bozeman than here. We need to work on that issue.

C. Plan for Analyzing Submissions

We currently have 80 submission across our 5 categories. We need to reduce that by at least 10%. It was stated that the Committee could break into teams for each category, with at least one person with expertise in that area and one that is from another area.

The following "teams" were devised.

Academic Foundations Category	Number of Submissions	Who will review
I. Global Academic Skills A. Math B. English C. Information Literacy	17	Abbas Bruce Sandie Science person
II. Natural Sciences	12 (and 11 labs)	Noreen Randall Science person

III. Social Sciences	10	Bruce Mark Noreen
IV. History and Cultural Diversity	21	Susan Sandie Connie
V. Arts and Humanities	20	Susan Randall Connie Mark

The meeting adjourned at 4:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Rita J. Rabe Meduna.