

**General Education Committee
Minutes**

April 22, 2013

Present:	Mark Jacobson	Bernie Quetchenbach
	Melinda Tilton	Kurt Toenjes
	Rhonda Dillman	Mike Havens
	Jennifer Lynn	Tom Regele
	Mark Fenderson	Patricia Nichols
	Scott Harris	Elizabeth Fullon
	TyRee Jenks	Matt Redinger (ex-officio)
Absent:	Leanne Gilbertsen (<i>excused</i>)	Michael Scarlett (<i>excused</i>)

Mike Havens called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m. in the Missouri room of the SUB.

The minutes of February 22 were accepted as presented.

I. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

A. Reducing Gen Ed Credits

The 31 credit proposal was approved by the Academic Senate and will be effective Fall 2013. Each program which currently requires the 37 credit program will have a line added which states students will take 6 credits of restricted electives, chosen with advisor approval.

B. ETS Test

If you have any students you can give the test to, please go to the Department of Biological & Physical Sciences and pick up some tests. Random students, seniors, any student is acceptable to test, in or out of class. When you do administer the test, just make notes about how you did it, such as incentives offered, so we know for next time. We are so late this semester getting the tests out because we had to become registered users of ETS and that took a while. Students do not need to be done with or even close to finishing Gen Ed; as long as they have taken a couple Gen Ed courses, their test will work fine.

It was noted that we could also test during the summer. Even if we have some students who are earning their degrees elsewhere but taking a summer course from MSUB, we can test them and then sort them into a separate group. We could test all year long, starting in fall, through spring, and into summer, with an annual cut-off of August 1.

C. Vice Provost Candidate

The Committee was asked to make time today to meet with one of the three candidates for the Vice Provost position, since there has been difficulty getting GEC members to meet

with the candidates at other times. However, today's candidate is Matt Redinger, former chair of the GEC, so the committee knows much of what he would tell us!

The topic of developmental education (Dev Ed) was raised. Dr. Redinger stated that the issue was, instructors of Dev Ed courses were unprotected since they were not recognized as faculty and therefore covered under a collective bargaining agreement. However, in January, the Board of Regents decided those instructors will move to the faculty ranks, and so the instructors at MSUB will become part of the VTEM bargaining group. This is an important issue for MSUB, because 75% of all MSUB students take at least one Dev Ed course. What ends up happening is, Gen Ed courses, intended to be gateway courses, become gatekeeper courses for Dev Ed students. A task force is working on ideas to combat the Dev Ed issue, including possibly giving students tutorial assistance in Gen Ed courses, rather than forcing them into Dev Ed courses.

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Rita J. Rabe Meduna.