

Minutes of the University General Education Committee
May 9, 2006

Chair Susan Carrafiello called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm in 238 Millett Hall. Attending were Joe Law, Jeanne Fraker, Carole Endres, Candy Cherrington, Rich Bullock, Mindy Diesslin, and Dan Ketcha.

The minutes of the April 27 meeting were approved.

The committee then considered the assessment reports from Area III, IV, V, and VI (CECS, COLA).

The members first reviewed the **Area III: Human Behavior** report. A concern was expressed that the marker questions dealt too much with simple identification or factual recall. Members wondered whether such questions were a true measure of college-level work. In general the members thought that sights were being set too low. Specifically, a question was raised about whether all 23 PLS marker questions were to be asked in all sections of the course. There was some concern expressed about faculty autonomy.

The chair suggested that the committee provide concrete suggestions for revision of the plan.

- No true-false questions

- Avoid simple factual recall questions, such as 16 and 21

- Better questions are 9 and 17, which require more complex understanding and meet performance criteria.

- Include some questions that discriminate between students. Include only one or two that everyone can answer correctly

- There should only be 6 to 10 marker questions

The **Area IV: Human Expression** plan was approved. Area IV relies heavily on portfolio reviews and essay questions. The members thought the team had designed a good pilot. In the future, they would like to see more sections sampled.

Area V: Natural Sciences plan was approved.

Area VI is the college component. EGR 190 report was considered first. Members want to know how many total students are in the course. Which GE learning objectives are measured by the marker questions? The members would like to see the marker questions themselves. Table I reflects attitudinal issues, Table II measures behaviors. Please clarify how this course is linked to Area VI GE learning objectives. The Nursing report is still undergoing final revisions and will be posted on the web site. The COLA reports stands as submitted at the last meeting. There is no report from the College of Science and Mathematics or the College of Education.

The next item of business concerned the transfer module. Joe Law reported that transfer module courses will transfer regardless of whether the student has completed the entire

module. He also reported that the GE Coordinator Search Committee will meet to narrow selections. He will forward a copy of the job description to members of this committee.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm.