

University General Education Committee Meeting
Wednesday, May 30, 2007
1:30 p.m.

Members present: Rich Bullock, Susan Carrafiello, Jeanne Fraker, Carole Endres, Mary Kenton, Joe Law, Jean Edwards, Mindy Diesslin, and David Reynolds.

The minutes from the April 2, 2007 meeting were amended to include the approval of the January 20, 2007 meeting minutes in addition to the approval of the November 1, 2006 minutes. The revised April 2, 2007 minutes were approved.

Carol Holdcraft presented the rationale for the request to substitute HA&P 301 and 302 for Ant 201 and 202 in Area V. The intent is to integrate the anatomy and physiology courses. A request was made to determine whether or not information on the instructor needs to be included on the syllabus. The discussion regarding substituting 200 GE level courses with 300 GE level courses indicated other programs are using these courses and need the courses at the 300 level. Carole made a motion to approve the substitution, after the instructor information is resolved, seconded by David. Motion was unanimously approved.

Review of GE Area assessment plans received by UGEC –

Area I Writing

After discussion led by Rich Bullock, Carole made a motion to accept the report, seconded by Mindy Diesslin. Report was unanimously approved.

Area V Natural Sciences

Report submitted by Tim Wood. Discussion focused on possible explanations for result. These courses were grandfathered as GE substitutions when the 2003 GE plan was approved. These substitution courses currently are not included in the GE assessment plans. The assessment of GE goals in substitution courses must be addressed in a fall UGEC meeting. A question was raised regarding the distribution of the WSU GE Student Learning Outcomes Evaluation Form. The committee is unclear whether this form is distributed to both GE courses and GE substitution courses. This needs to be clarified. Carole Enders moved to approve the report as submitted, seconded by Mindy. The report was unanimously approved.

Area VI

College of Nursing and Health

Report submitted by Carol Holdcraft. Discussion focused generally on problems with the use of marker questions as the sole assessment method, and specifically for the report's lack of information of the marker questions that are being proposed. The committee agreed to return the report to College of Nursing and Health with a request for more information.

College of Liberal Arts

Report submitted by Sharon Nelson as written by Jung_Soo Yi. After discussion of the conclusions reported by the CoLA, Carole Enders moved to accept the report, seconded by Rich Bullock. The report was unanimously approved.

Susan Carafiello reported that Bruce Laforse, coordinator for Area II, and Donna Schlagheck, coordinator for Area III, are making progress on getting data from their areas. Mindy Diesslin, coordinator for Area I math, did not receive the earlier request for area reports, and will submit a report shortly. No report has been received from David Barr, coordinator for Area IV, or from Area VI for CoSM, RSCB, CEHS and CECS. No report has been received from Jim Steinberg, coordinator for Lake Campus. These reports will be requested and reviewed at the first UGEC meeting in the fall. Discussion focused on need to engage faculty in the assessment process, including the need to remind faculty of the purpose of assessment and techniques of embedded assessment in ongoing evaluation.

Jeanne Fraker raised questions on the current transfer policy for GE courses taken outside WSU by native students. Discussion focused on the background rationale for the policy, the changing policy at the State level concerning transfer credit and the issue of fairness in policy across native and transfer student. It was agreed by the committee that this is a complex issue that should be thoroughly addressed in the fall. In the meantime, the policy as stated in the GE Program Manual will be followed. It was also agreed to review in the fall the FAQ's on the GE webpage, and to address whether updates are needed.

Meeting adjourned.