

General Education Committee

April 27, 2009 – HUB 123

DRAFT - M I N U T E S

Present: Lourdes Aviles, Samuel D. Brickley II, Mary E. Campbell (consultant, non-voting), Corey J. DeGroot (student, voting), John C. Krueckeberg, Robert S. Miller, Evelyn M. Stiller (Chair), Eun-ho Yeo (new faculty, non-voting), David Zehr [seven voting members]

Absent: D. Benjamin Dearth (student, voting), Deborah H. John

Vacant: Dean of the Academic Experience

2009-10 Member Present: Elliott Gruner

2009-10 Members Unable to Attend: Chris Chabot, Wilson Garcia

Recorded in the order in which the agenda item was discussed. Evelyn Stiller called the meeting to order at 2:30 pm.

- I. Approve minutes from April 13th. *Approved as distributed.* Mary was thanked for scribing; Evelyn was thanked for chairing; departing members John and Robert were thanked for their participation; Eun-ho was thanked for attending as new faculty observer.
- II. Early Approval Proposal:
 - a. ESDI xxxx Introduction to Planetary Science (experimental course) as Scientific Inquiry Direction.
- III. Welcome to our new members: Chris Chabot, Wilson Garcia, and Elliott Gruner.
- IV. Creative Thought Direction focus group will be April 30th from 3:30-4:45 pm in Frost Commons. Lourdes is unable to attend.
- V. Electing a chairperson. Evelyn nominated Lourdes. David nominated Sam. Both nominees spoke. Lourdes requested a paper ballot. Sam was elected Chair of the General Education Committee for 2009-10.
- VI. Liz Ahl's issue. Liz e-mailed the Committee proposing “that an exception be made in General Education so that if a student changes majors, they might be allowed to request that courses (a limited number?) without Gen Ed ‘DI’ status be able to count as ‘DI’ courses.”

David reported that this has been dealt with on an individual student basis, using a Student Request. David brought this issue to the Committee last fall; the Committee talked about it and gave him some guidelines. David wants to do each case individually, as he looks at the body of the student's work.

Gen Ed teaches life skills. Be fair to all students. Flexible and fair. Major courses give you professional skills. Advising is key. There are a lot of early warnings—Curriculum Planning Guides, online Program Evaluation (CAPP), Undergraduate Advising Center, online searches for Gen Ed courses by their attributes, lists in the printed fall and spring Schedule of Classes of the courses that satisfy General Education.

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If only majors were more flexible and less complicated. David will respond to Dr. Ahl.

VII. Committee Reports.

- a. Curriculum Committee. Meets May 15th.
- b. Steering Committee.
- c. Cory reported that he is Chair of the Student Taskforce on General Education. They will be surveying students about the design of the General Education requirements and what students want. The goal is to get students to say what they want in General Education.

The General Education Committee meets on the second and fourth Mondays of the month from 2:30 to 3:30 pm in HUB 123. The next meeting of the Committee will be **September 14th**.

The Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary E. Campbell, Scribe
Director of Curriculum Support