

General Education Committee Minutes October 5, 2005

Badlands Room, Memorial Union

General Education Committee Members present included: Eric Asa, Elizabeth Birmingham, Mike Christoffers, Virginia Clark Johnson, Jeffery Gerst, Robert Harrold, Kate Haugen, Ranelle Ingalls, John Martin, Char Myhre, Doug Rymph, Kimberly Vess Halbur, Robyne Williams, and Kristi Wold-McCormick. David Anderson, a Sophomore in Pre-Pharmacy, joined the committee as the representative of Student Government.

M. Christoffers, as convener, called the meeting to order at 4 p.m. and asked that members introduce themselves and identify the unit that they represent.

A MOTION (Christoffers/Williams) to amend the minutes of the September 21, 2005 meeting by adding D. Rymph to the list of those present was APPROVED with unanimous consent. The minutes of the September 28, 2005 meeting were approved by consensus.

There were no student petitions to consider.

Discussion on the online assessment tool was delayed until the next meeting (October 12, 2005). J. Gerst reported that the graduate student working on the project and the student's major advisor would like to make a short presentation at that time.

Copies of the Capstone Review spreadsheet, previously distributed on April 27, 2005, were reviewed and discussed. The background of the review and mechanics were presented by the subcommittee (Clark Johnson, Harrold, and Wold-McCormick). A MOTION (Christoffers/Williams) to present the spreadsheet as a point of information at the next meeting of the Deans and Directors was amended (Christoffers/Williams) to include development of an explanation of the background of the review of capstone courses and expansion of the labels for capstone outcomes. **AMENDMENT AND MOTION PASSED WITH UNANIMOUS CONSENT.** Members of the Capstone Review Subcommittee plan to have a draft of the background and explanation of labels for outcomes available for discussion in approximately four weeks.

The materials on Vertical Writing to be presented at University Senate on October 10, 2005 were discussed at length. After presentation of several perspectives and questions, the members of the Committee asked Christoffers, as a Senator, to present their position that additional time is needed to define responses to several questions. Those questions include identification of responsibilities for oversight of the courses to be developed. The members of the Committee also recommended, by consensus, that a study committee be appointed by the University Senate to explore the issues and provide a report to the Senate at a future date.

Several agenda items were not discussed and the meeting was adjourned at 5:22 p.m.

Recorder: Bob Harrold