

General Education Committee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, December 5, 2007, 4:00-5:00 pm

Members present: David Anderson, Michael Christoffers, RaNelle Ingalls, Virginia Clark Johnson, Margaret Lee, Harriett Light, John Martin, Charlene Myhre, Larry Peterson, Charles Stevens, Kristi Wold-McCormick

Members absent: Eric Asa, Elizabeth Birmingham, Cierra Grondahl, Robert Harrold, Catherine Haugen,

1. Approve minutes from November 7, 2007 meeting as distributed by email on 11/09/07 – One change under Student Petition #2 – accepted, change to accepted
2. Approve agenda for today
3. Subcommittee Reports
 - Student Petitions – RaNelle, Virginia, John, David
 - Student petition #1
 - The subcommittee recommends we deny based on the fact that ECE 275 has not been offered as a GE since summer 2005. The student did not begin the program until fall 2005. Additionally, the ECE course is not indicated as a GE on the Transfer Equivalency Worksheet that the student should have received when student first began at NDSU. RaNelle moved to accept the subcommittee's recommendation and deny the petition. John 2nd. Committee votes to reject petition.
 - Student petition #2
 - The subcommittee recommends we deny based on the student's and advisor's assumption that HPER 210 is on the GE list. A quick review of the list would have revealed otherwise. RaNelle moved to accept the subcommittee's recommendation and deny the petition. Margaret 2nd. Committee votes to reject petition after discussion – CPR only satisfies 1 of the 4 requirements of wellness.
 - Student petition
 - The subcommittee recommends we deny due to the explanation that the course (BIOL 220) that was taken to fulfill the co-req lab requirement was too difficult. The student has the option to take MICR 202L (std passed MICR 202 at NDSU with a C) to complete the requirement. RaNelle moves to accept the subcommittee's recommendation and deny the petition. John 2nd. Committee votes 4 in favor of rejecting petition, 3 oppose. Petition rejected.
 - Student petition #4
 - The subcommittee recommends we approve; this course (Japanese 101 from MSUM) has been approved for other students in the past. RaNelle moves to accept the subcommittee's recommendation and approve. David 2nd. Committee approves petition.

- Student petition #5
 - The subcommittee recommends we approve; this course (EDUC 489) has been approved for other students in the past and the course is a cultural diversity awareness course. RaNelle moves to accept the subcommittee's recommendation and approve. Char 2nd, committee approves petition.
- Student petition #6
 - This petition was just filed so the subcommittee has no advance recommendation.
 - The student requests that CDFS 494: Exploring Citizenship and Activism for Today: The Omega Project should be allowed to meet the Cultural Diversity requirement. RaNelle moves to accept petition and approve. John 2nd. Committee votes – 1 approves and 6 oppose. Petition rejected, this is a new course and not enough information.
- Student petition #7
 - This petition just filed so subcommittee has no advance recommendation.
 - Student requests to have course HPER 210 approved as a GE course in category of Wellness to satisfy GE requirements. RaNelle moves to deny the petition. Michael 2nd, committee votes to reject petition.
- Student petition #8
 - This petition just filed so subcommittee has no advance recommendation.
 - Student petitions that 3 credits of MUSC 311 Jazz Ensemble should be accepted for GE Humanities and Fine Arts. This is similar to 112 Band and 303 Concert Band. RaNelle moves to accept petition and approve. Charles 2nd. Committee votes to accept and approve petition.
- Humanities, Fine Arts, Communication – Mike, Betsy, David, Larry

Courses Approved for General Education (New)				
Course No.	Course Title	Recommended Categories		Recommended Outcomes
GERM 220	German Culture and Society	A, G		3, 6
Continued Approval (5-Year Renewal) for General Education with Changes in Outcomes				
Course No.	Course Title	Categories	Previous Outcomes	Recommended Outcomes
ART 130	Drawing I	A	1, 4, 6	1, 6

- Larry moves to accept recommendations from sub committee and approve. Committee votes and approves new course GERM 220 and 5 year renewal of ART 130.
- Subcommittee reports on that ART 124 will be returned to the department for further revisions.
- Social & Behavioral Sciences, Quantitative Reasoning– Eric, RaNelle, Margie, Charles

Continued Approval (5-Year Renewal) for General Education with Changes in Outcomes				
Course No.	Course Title	Categories	Previous Outcomes	Recommended Outcomes
ENGR 312	Impact of Technology on Society	B,G	3, 6	3, 6

- RaNelle moves to accept recommendation from subcommittee, Char 2nd, committee votes and approves 5 year renewal of ENGR 312.

4. Discussion with Provost Schnell about GE Options

Provost stated our present general education program is organized horizontally and students often just want to “get it over.” Although there is pressure from employers to train their employees, education is broad thing and cannot be specific for each company. Feedback from employers is that students have strong technical skills, but are weak in oral and written communication and teamwork. We need to consider more vertical integration. Some of general education (perhaps the humanities) would fit better at the junior or senior level. Students need communication skills that are vertically integrated. For example, pharmacy students need a vertical communication course to help them know how to interview patients and they also need a vertical writing course on how to construct an effective one page memo. We have good programs now, but we should not to become complacent. We need to look at things differently. How do we approach vertical integration? Maybe students should begin with more courses in their disciplines so they would be more interested. We might motivate them by meeting their needs. We also face the obstacle of already tight schedules.

Larry would like to see 4 to 5 committee members attend the AACU conference February 21-23 in Boston. Revising GE would be a challenge and involve a lot of work. We will need resources, grants, maybe a separate group. We need to be willing to listen to campus wants. We currently assess courses individually, but maybe we need to start with evaluating the entire general education program? (Note from Larry: The last GE revision process started in 1991 and the University Senate approved the foundation of the present GE program on November 9, 1992. The initial courses were approved in spring 1994. Consequently, it has been at least 15 years since the campus has examined and discussed what we think every NDSU graduate should learn as part of being a well-rounded person.)

5. Meeting adjourned at 5:15pm

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 9, 2008
2:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Mandan Room, Memorial Union**

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Wolter, Recorder