

General Education Curriculum Committee 2003-04
Meeting of March 22, 2004 - 3:00 p.m., Strickler 126B

Minutes

Voting Members Attending: Berman, Black, Boyd, Crim, Dogbe, Dugger, Gray, Holloman, Johnson, Kolers (Chair), Schultz, Williams. *Others:* Billingsley (non-voting), Carden (staff).

1. The minutes of March 1, 2004 were approved.
2. Gray gave an overview of the proposal (e-mail from Elaine Wise) to provide a **mechanism for setting aside courses for students**. If courses are set aside for students with less than 60 hours, juniors and seniors would scream at the beginning; however, after 3-4 years, students would not be missing courses during their senior year. Boyd commented on the need to increase the capacity to make the waiting list smaller; however, more sections would require more resources for faculty lines. He also talked about the need to get to the root of the problem vs. just looking at the symptoms (see item 4 Re: proposed study).
3. The current GECC membership was appointed on an ad hoc basis. The **staggering of terms** (one-, two- and three-year terms) for elected members begins Fall 2004. This rotation of seats (to be determined by a random drawing) excludes the four appointed ex-officio members: liaisons from the A&S curriculum committee, English composition, mathematics and oral communications. Also, the president of SGA will appoint two student members annually.
4. Boyd presented the proposal of the subcommittee on **unmet demand for general education classes**. Since the perceptions of the problem are different at various levels, it was recommended that a study be conducted across the units. A group of MBA students is available to conduct the project (prior to the end of the semester). A systems approach was proposed to determine the "cause and effect" of unmet demands on graduation. The process will help pinpoint where to attack the problem (and where not to focus) to relieve pressure. Any actions need to remedy problem areas vs. causing more. Also, conflicts and constraints (policies, procedures, mind sets, span of control) will be identified. Billingsley suggested that limits be set on the focus of the study and that contacts in major functional areas (academic units and administration) be identified. The consensus of the committee was that although other groups may look at the problem, it would be interesting to see what the team (new eyes) discovers and proposes. *Williams made a motion that the committee members endorse the project, which was approved. Boyd will work with the students to head up the project. Carden

will collect names of key contacts and provide this information to the students. Billingsley will apprise the Provost and ask that the university cooperate in the process.

5. The **revised** general education course proposal cover sheet and the general education syllabus guidelines were approved. The sample template was approved with one minor change in wording.

The next meeting was scheduled for April 5, 2004.

Kathy Carden, recorder