



General Education Curriculum Committee
Meeting of August 25, 2006 – 3:00 p.m.

Minutes

Attending (Voting Members): Busch, Crim, Futrell, Gray, Holloman, Schultz, Swanson, B. Williams; *(Nonvoting):* Bachelor, Billingsley, Dablow, Dietrich, Mahony

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of May 12, 2006 were approved (Handout 1).

Introduction of New Members

B. Williams reviewed the general charge of the GECC (Handout 2).
Everyone in attendance introduced themselves.

Report and Response to 2005 – 2006 Assessment Data

B. Williams reviewed the importance of assessment in general and its place in the SACS program and report. The fact that assessment targets the overall general education program and not individual departments was stressed.

D. Mahony reviewed the data on the assessment results from 05-06 (Handout 3). As 05-06 was the first year of assessment, now may be the appropriate time to review the assessment process and make possible improvements in order to ensure the assessment process supports continual improvement to general education. Specifically, the cultural diversity and critical thinking rubrics were mentioned and discussed.

Cultural Diversity and Critical Thinking Rubrics Discussion:

- Cultural Diversity scored lowest of the three areas assessed.
- Much of what was submitted for cultural diversity assessment did not apply to the rubrics established for cultural diversity.
- The critical thinking rubrics established for QEP are not the same as the rubrics established for general education assessment.
- Motion passed: Forward assessment data to the Delphi Center on Teaching and Learning to incorporate into sessions held for teaching critical thinking and cultural diversity. (Also involve the Committee to Develop Cultural Diversity Courses)
- Motion passed: Increase visibility and awareness of the assessment rubrics used for general education courses. Specifically, make them available on the web.
- Motion passed: Provide summaries of assessment data to departments for information and discussion.
- Motion passed: Revisit critical thinking rubric to align with QEP.

Plans for 2006 – 2007 Assessment

Fall 2006 departments to be assessed: English, Modern Languages, Music History, Philosophy and Women and Gender Studies

Spring 2007 department to be assessed: Math. Discussion of math assessment:

- Assessing mathematics with rubrics in place poses unique problems.
- Easier to assess if cultural diversity is exempted.
- Can a multiple choice exam like the CLA be used?
- Measuring what students know is less important than determining the value added by completing the requirement.
- How do other institutions assess general education mathematics?
- B. Williams recommends forming a sub-committee to explore the appropriate way to assess math.

Adjourn 3:45

Handout 1 – Minutes of May 12, 2006

Handout 2 – University Wide General Education; Competencies, Content Areas and Learning Outcomes

Handout 3 – General Education Assessment Results: 2005-06

Prepared by Joe Dablow