**MINUTES – GENERAL EDUCATION POLICY REVIEW COMMITTEE**

ROOM 110 NOEL FINE ARTS CENTER – January 11, 2010; 1 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: D. Guay, J. Houghton, G. Olsen, R. Olson, J. Sage, J. Schneider, G. Summers,

 R Sirabian

MEMBERS ABSENT: M. Bixby, N. Fernando

1. The meeting was called to order.

2. The minutes from the December 14 were approved with minor revisions.

3. Announcements: Nancy Simon will begin recording minutes for the GEPRC. Update was given on the proposal to revise degree requirements.

4. Old Business: Update Step 5c Draft—Changes to/Discussion of the Draft

**Proposal**

* Course caps or enrollment ranges were removed from the proposal portion of the Step 5c from Communication 101 and the FYS since this was done for English 101/202/150. This resulted from the Committee’s discussion of whether or not caps or enrollment ranges were an administrative/resource issue or within the purview of the GEP Committee. Cases were made for each perspective. The Committee decided to address this issue in the explanation section of Step5c and not propose specific course caps or enrollment ranges in the proposal.
* Integration level—bullets were reorganized to clarify information: Student populations, prerequisites, single course designation for more than one Investigation Level category.
* Experiential Learning
	+ Discussion if ROTC students are covered under option A, which is proposed by departments. Military Science might propose an experiential learning course or experience. Veterans who attend UWSP have significant life experiences, but they must satisfy the Experiential Learning requirement while at UWSP, for example, with option B—an ELA. This will ensure that the experience goes beyond course work but is still related to it. The practice of granting exemptions would undermine the Experiential Learning requirement. The issue of athletes and their experiences was also raised. Parallel options were discussed by the Committee.
	+ The second to last bullet point—“The mentor will assess the ELA using an ELA assessment rubric”—was removed to avoid the potential confusion suggested by “assessment rubric.”
* Capstone Experience in the Major—the Committee decided the existing requirements were adequate and allowed departments flexibility.

**Explanation**

* The committee decided to address the funding issue at the beginning of the explanation section since this issue has been raised more frequently. The main point emphasized is that funding (e.g., budgeting/resource allocation) is not the purview of the GEP. Several paragraphs were added.
* Information that was dated or no longer relevant was removed from the Instructor Qualification section, particularly concerning the FYS. This section was made more concise based on current feedback from faculty and the Committee’s continued thinking and debate about this issue.
* Information about course designations was added to the FYS section.
* The Committee discussed revisions to Written and Oral Communication, namely reorganizing the section to clarify the Committee’s decision to name departments for this category of the general education program. Two key ideas are commonality (e.g., all students take these courses) and programmatic rationale/consistency. Another issue the Committee believes must be addressed is the change of Communication 101 to a three-credit course since this change was raised in a recent L & S forum about the GEP. Information will be obtained/verified from the Division of Communication. Finally, a discussion of course caps or enrollment ranges will be added.

5. New Business: Homework for the next meeting. The Committee will try to finish reviewing the Explanation section and any remaining matters from the Proposal.

Robert: Written/Oral Communication, Comm in the Major, Capstone
Don: Quantitative Lit
Julie: Experiential Learning/Wellness
John: Cultural/Environmental Awareness
Greg: FYS/Resources
James: CASE/Investigation
Nisha: Overall Review
Randy: Interdisciplinary Studies
Gary: Instructor Criteria/Overall

6. The meeting was adjourned at 3 p.m.

Minutes Recorded by Robert Sirabian