**General Education Policy Review Committee**

**Minutes of the January 4, 2011 Meeting**

Present: Don Guay, Gary Olsen, John Houghton, James Sage, Julie Schneider, Robert Sirabian, Greg Summers

Called to order at 1:05 pm

The minutes of December 7th were amended.

Announcements - None

Old Business – Update Step 5 draft.

1. Communication in the Major (CM)– The committee discussed and amended the following criteria:
   1. The criteria were re-ordered for better organization according to their purpose.
   2. The bullet regarding instruction of writing and speaking was amended to read “Writing and speaking instruction can be taught together in a single course or divided among courses” to clarify that each CM course does not require instruction in both writing and speaking.
   3. The bullet regarding requiring CM courses from outside the department was amended to include “when appropriate” to show that it is possible to require CM courses from other departments.
   4. The bullet discussing enrollment recommendations was amended to replace “communication techniques” with “communication skills”
2. Written and Communication – The committee accepted changes to delete specific enrollment ranges for Written Communication courses.
3. Interdisciplinary Studies (IS) – The committee accepted the previous change to define sophomore standing as the pre-requisite for an IS course.
4. Experiential Learning (EL) – The committee discussed and amended the following criteria:
   1. The first bullet was revised to read “Experiential Learning will provide….” Instead of “Experiential Learning is a requirement that provides….”
   2. Student teaching was added as one of several credit-bearing examples which could fulfill the EL requirement.
   3. The committee deleted the phrase “sponsored by UWSP” after the study abroad experience. This change was made to acknowledge that a study abroad at another institution could potentially fulfill the EL requirement at UWSP.
   4. The committee revised the reflection criteria under the non-credit-bearing option to read “Students must reflect on their activity through oral and/or written communication with their mentor….”
   5. The committee discussed the potential for students to use an Independent study or research credit-bearing course to fulfill the EL requirement. The consensus is that instructors should use the non-credit-bearing option to fulfill the EL requirement as the student’s mentor rather than bring the course to the General Education Committee for approval as an EL course.

Homework: The committee should review the numerous edits in the explanation section of the proposal for discussion at next week’s meeting.

James Sage and Julie Schneider are going to work on the Experiential Learning explanation to clarify the credit-bearing and non-credit-bearing options

Adjourned at 2:40pm.

Respectfully submitted by Don Guay.