**General Education Policy Review Committee**

**Minutes of the October 5, 2010 Meeting**

Present: Don Guay, Gary Olsen, Michael Bixby, Nisha Fernando, John Houghton, Randy Olson, James Sage, Julie Schneider, Robert Sirabian, Greg Summers, Mary Holland.

Guest: Rhonda Sprague.

Called to order at 3:03pm.

Announcements.

1. Julie Schneider spoke with a representative at UW-Eau Claire regarding their new Gen Ed program that has bundles of themed courses, and learned the Foundation level and Gen Ed requirements are very similar to what this committee has proposed.
2. The College of Letters & Science has submitted more feedback on Step 5c. The

committee will categorize these comments by theme and consider each. A new comment section will be created for any comments received after October 4.

New Business.

1. Discuss GEPRC proposal to CHRS regarding General Education Committee proposal with guest Rhonda Sprague.

*Rhonda commented that 17 people is a very large number for a committee.*

-GEPRC described the need for broad representation on this committee to properly review course proposals. The number of committee members in the GEPRC proposal assures at least one representative for each area in the GE curriculum.

*Rhonda asked are there going to be standing sub-committees within this committee? IF so, there might be less concern due to distribution of the responsibilities divided from within the 17 members.*

-The committee discussed how in Step 5 there are lots of questions regarding Instructor qualifications and so if there are representatives from every area in GE, then at least one member should always be able to provide guidance to the committee. GEPRC feels that when the GEC forms, its members should decide upon the need for specific sub-committees.

*Rhonda asked if the chair is elected from within?*

-There is a precedent in other committees to do this. The Gen Ed committee focus is on function to determine the structure. Because the Gen Ed program being a curriculum is a new idea on this campus, the Gen Ed Committee would effectively be the Department, unique from anything else on campus. The central concern is that there will be representatives to articulate concerns from each GEP area.

*Rhonda pointed out that although two people will be elected from each college there is no way to predict that every college will be represented.*

-The committee replied that is why a dean can appoint someone from an unrepresented college. GEPRC also recommends having only tenured faculty serve on this committee to protect untenured faculty members.

*Rhonda asked are the appointed people 1 or 2 year terms? Is the elected faculty co-chair a 1-year term?*

-The committee replied that is a good addition to add term limits in the proposal.

*Rhonda asked if Step 5C could have an introduction to this document?*

-The committee replied it would be good to send this proposal out for feedback and then directly forward the feedback regarding the GEC to Rhonda.

*Rhonda commented it looks fairly distributed with 12-15 faculty members. Thank you!*

1. Update on degree requirements from AAC meeting.

AAC is going to make a small ad hoc group to work on a new degree requirement proposal for campus. GEPRC discussed the importance to make sure there is adequate campus input for this.

The committee discussed draft a memo to AAC with recommendations that the topic needs to vetted campus-wide and the conversation should start with a survey of how the campus views degree requirements.

Homework: Divide up all the new feedback; cut and paste them by Friday.

Adjourned at 5:03pm.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Holland.