**General Education Policy Review Committee**

**Minutes of the December 10 Meeting.**

Present: Don Guay, Gary Olsen, John Houghton, Andrew Letson, James Sage, Julie Schneider, Robert Sirabian, Greg Summers, Mary Holland.

Called to order at 8:07am.

The minutes of Dec 3 were approved with corrections.

Announcements:

A link to the video of the Maryville presentation has been posted on the GEPRC website.

New Business:

1. Review of comments from Dec 9 Open Forum.

Because the Governor closed all non-emergency state agencies on Dec 9 due to a state-wide blizzard, the scheduled Open Forum must be rescheduled. The committee agreed to have the Open Forum on Wednesday Dec 16 at 4:30pm. After a room has been confirmed this will be announced in a Message of the Day next week.

1. Review of comments on website.

We have received 3 comments on the GEPRC website. Regarding the First Year Seminar claim “*Current programs that might fall under this heading serve 30-40% of 1st to 2nd year students,”* we will note this is from the website <http://sc.edu/fye/> .

1. Discussion of Step 5.

It was announced there will be a First Year Seminar conference in Denver the 2nd week of February; and there will be a Gen Ed Assessment conference in Seattle next year also.

The committee discussed how the degree requirement proposal from the Academic Affairs Committee might affect our conversations regarding Step 5.

The committee discussed how to assess Gen Ed courses. The committee agreed to research the current course criteria and to start thinking about instructor qualification criteria.

The committee discussed if we believe that disciplines matter fundamentally when teaching inter-disciplinary courses. The committee discussed if approval of a course would be granted only for the course, when it is taught by a faculty member with the degree at a certain level in the discipline plus someone who is approved (whether in the same or different discipline). The simplest way to do this would be to require specified degrees; with built-in opportunities for reflection on how the learning outcomes for a fundamental course meet the needs required in another specific discipline.

The committee discussed if there is a need for students having more than one choice for each of the fundamental courses. Alternatively in Step 5 we could stipulate that fundamental courses be taken within the first 60 credits, before a student is allowed to take upper level courses.

The committee discussed how grades should count when it is explicitly demonstrated what are the components of a standard grading rubric.

The committee agreed to meet Dec 17, and to discuss the winter break and spring schedules then.

Adjourned at 9:40am.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Holland.