**General Education Policy Review Committee**

**Minutes of the April 22 Meeting**

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

Called to order at 3:34pm.

Announcements:

The minutes of 4-8 were amended and approved. The minutes of 4-15 were approved.

Old Business:

Discussion of step 5 – Investigation level.

1. The committee reviewed if generally the Foundation courses should be numbered at the 100 level, Investigation courses should be 100-200 level, and the Integration courses should all be upper level courses. The committee decided that requiring course numbering for GEP courses at various levels is not justified.

The committee discussed the rationale for generally having no prerequisites for GEP courses at the Investigation level. The step 5 draft document was amended to require a clear explanation for any prerequisites in GEP courses at the Investigation Level be presented to the Gen Ed Committee within the course proposal.

1. The committee discussed amendments to the First Year Seminar. The committee discussed if the First Year Seminar could be required by a major. The committee amended the step 5 document to strongly suggest that the FYS should not be attached to a major. FYS courses should be passion courses not intro to a major courses.

The committee discussed that transfer students shouldn’t have to take the FYS and preventing students from taking two FYS courses. The committee discussed if all FYS should be cataloged as FYS 101 with lots of subtitled sections, or whether to designate their own number within each major/department that is a FYS course.

1. The committee discussed amendments to the Integration level. The committee discussed what is an Interdisciplinary minor, what should or should not be official criteria for an Interdisciplinary minor.

The committee discussed if we need to define the criteria of what makes a major designated with an Interdisciplary minor. Every major on campus could be an interdisciplinary major therefore we need to define this carefully. The committee agreed to discuss this more in the future.

1. The committee discussed creating an Experiential Learning Project form. The committee discussed if there has to be a reflection piece done for an EL project, but not every designated EL project course.
2. The committee discussed whether or not to designate if there should be a cap on the number of students enrolled in Communication in the Major courses. The department has to present their plan to the committee and it has to be approved. Then assessment has to show what the department is doing well or what needs improving. We need to trust departments to do this without rigid guidelines in order to accommodate all majors on campus.

Homework: Look at the UW LaCrosse Writing in the Major programs.

Adjourned at 5:25pm.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Holland.