**General Education Policy Review Committee**

**Minutes of the June 15, 2010 Meeting.**

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

Called to order at 1:04 pm.

The minutes of June 8 were amended.

Announcements:

1. The presentation by James Sage on the GE Assessment Plan is June 29.

Old Business: Discussion and revision of Step 5 proposal.

1. Communication in the Major.

Robert Sirabian distributed copies of “*Communication in the Major*” revisions. Robert spoke with Jim Haney for recommendations to the Oral Communication requirements. The recommendation is for a minimum series of 2 courses at the 300+ level. To be meaningful there need to be included a minimum of three 4-6 minute long oral presentations.

The committee discussed the intent to enhance and broaden the written communication in the major to include oral communication. The committee discussed if there needs to be a way of tracking that the requirements have been met.

The committee discussed wording to suggest the requirements are typically met with two courses, 6 credits. The committee discussed that the departments may have to figure out a way to build in this requirement in their programs. They may choose to designate specific courses or list a menu of choices; a minimum of 6 credits, within their major/program, in order to guarantee the GE requirements will be met.

The committee discussed if it is better to go with a 6-credit (rather than 2 course) requirement, hoping these minimums would be met over 2 courses. Each department will need to decide how to meet this requirement.

The committee discussed if a Capstone course may include double dipping with a Communication in the Major requirement? Yes.

1. Capstone in the Major.

Gary Olsen distributed copies of “*Capstone in the Major*” revisions. The committee discussed that they liked the proposed changes, including that the department will designate a Capstone course or experience of each of its majors.

1. Interdisciplinary Studies.

The committee discussed if we need to define and differentiate majors from minors; because taking one single course from another discipline should not be enough to meet the criteria.

The committee discussed if we are asking departments to check if they are Interdisciplinary. No, that was not our original intention; we attempted to encourage more single Interdisciplinary courses.

A single Interdisciplinary course hopefully should integrate two disciplines. The committee discussed that we could put more emphasis on criteria for a single Interdisciplinary course. It is easier to address Interdisciplinary Studies within one course, but it is harder to set up that course. The incentive for making these courses is that some majors require a lot of credits and may not have room for an additional minor or certificate.

The committee discussed the minimum standard is a certificate with a minimum of 9 credits from two disciplines. It was added that all single Interdisciplinary course be numbered 300+ level.

The committee discussed we need to define Interdisciplinary, then define the what’s and whys of Interdisciplinary courses, majors and minors.

Julie Schneider will send a list of ID majors to Greg Summers and Nisha Fernando so they can draft a proposal of criteria.

1. Cultural and Environmental Awareness.

The committee amended Cultural and Environmental Awareness to delete any reference to Interdisciplinary courses.

For next week: We are meeting next week.

Adjourned at 2:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Holland.