**General Education Policy Review Committee**

**Minutes of the June 22 Meeting**

Present: John Houghton, Randy Olson, Julie Schneider, James Sage, Greg Summers, Mary Holland.

Called to order at 1:00pm.

The minutes of June 15 were amended.

Announcements:

Greg Summers with Dan Kellogg and the programmers. One of the issues that came up is our proposed course number for the First Year Seminar as FYS 101 with different sub-topics as section numbers. The current program software will not be able to automatically coordinate an FYS 101 prefix with the other tracking software (the Transfer Information System and the Degree Progress Report); so each student record of those taking this course would have to be manually dealt with.

The alternative suggested is to have each department choose a prefix for the FYS courses they offer; or to use the same number across all departments and with their department prefix (for example: BUS190, COM190, BIO190 would all be FYS courses).

The committee discussed if we need to be decide philosophically how to address this question. The committee discussed if each dept came up with their own FYS prefix that might complicate whether instructors outside the department could teach the course. It was our intention to be more inclusive, to include Academic Staff teaching this course. The committee discussed if Academic Staff teaching an FYS could have their own prefix (for example: FYS190.)

The committee discussed how the FYS is the only class not in a specific discipline so we have so we might consider this its own curriculum (for example: FYS 111 as General Education, FYS 121 as Environmental, and FYS 131 as Global Diversity).

The committee discussed if UWSP will be switching over to PeopleSoft and whether that software might allow the FYS course its own prefix. If so, perhaps with the change in the Gen Ed curriculum requirements, it might be a good time to change to PeopleSoft software.

The committee agreed to ask the programmers if there is another more customizable option. Greg Summers will go ahead getting material for the pilot FYS courses numbered as FYS 190.

Old Business: Discussion of Step 5 – Investigation and Integration levels.

Interdisciplinary Studies. The committee looked at Julie Schneider’s list of ID course, majors and minors. The list also includes options, concentrations, emphasis and tracks; some can be included on a student’s transcript and some cannot.

The committee considered adding a note that the department responsible for assessing any major must check if it meets the Interdisciplinary Studies outcomes. In future the program review must be assessed. There might be a lot of programs on campus where a minor is encouraged to round out an Interdisciplinary program.

The committee discussed if a department would have to apply for an Interdisciplinary certificate, or even go through a whole new gateway. The committee noted we have a 3-credit single ID course option currently. It was recommended we provide a broad definition and criteria but leave it up to the new Gen Ed committee to focus on this with Program Assessment.

New Business: Assignment updates.

James Sage is working on an Overview.

Don Guay is working on Quantitative Literacy.

Greg Summers is working on ID Studies.

Julie Schneider is working on an Experiential Learning packet.

Open Forum on September 1, so we will get out the Proposal the week of August 23.

Adjourned at 2:17pm.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Holland.