**General Education Policy Review Committee**

**Minutes of the June 8 Meeting**

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

Called to order at 1:09pm.

The minutes of June 1 were amended.

Announcements:

1. It has been suggested by the HLC Academy Team that we need another committee to serve during the transition. The committee discussed if the provost could request this transition committee be put together. John Houghton and Robert Sirabian serve on the GDR subcommittee now and their reaction to the idea that this committee serve as a transition committee is that it would be possible but Step 5 must then be completed and approved first.

The committee discussed the timeline of this process and that it should not be rushed. The committee confirmed the latest date to start having students in the new program is Fall 2011. The committee discussed how this GEPRC committee is done when Step 6 is complete.

1. The committee discussed how questions from Dan Kellogg regarding programming in the new Gen Ed Program of which many couldn’t be answered now. Governance issues of implementation should go to a transition GDR committee next year when they are working on transition issues (as proposed, instead of approving new courses) next year.

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

1. The committee discussed that departments that have a lot of Gen Ed courses embedded in their programs can’t change their majors to meet the new requirements, so the courses need to be approved by the system.

The criterion for courses in Step 5 is written to be broad because less is more. The question about qualifications of instructors is what is driving changes to the Step 5a Course Criteria.

1. Communication in the Major is a Gen Ed requirement for all majors, including written and oral communication. Robert Sirabian will talk to Jim Haney regarding the minimum of requirements to allow flexibility. The committee discussed that they like requiring a minimum of 2 courses to meet this requirement.

The committee discussed if we should repeat the General Guidelines in the course criteria. The committee discussed that each department do more with assessment at the end of the succession of courses. Perhaps group presentations should be mentioned.

1. Capstone Experience in the Major. The committee discussed that the Capstone is more rigorous than the Experiential Learning requirement. The committee discussed if there can be an Experiential Learning component within a Capstone Experience. The committee discussed there is no double dipping because our original intention was to say all majors should have a Capstone Experience.

If it’s written in the Learning Outcomes, then all we have to do in Step 5b is give broad general outcomes for each department to know how to implement this within their majors. In the diagram, the sidebars can count for any areas so there is no worry about a department double dipping.

The committee further discussed if a department can show the Gen Ed committee that their program satisfies the Learning Outcomes then there is no reason to further constrict how they implement this requirement. The committee discussed how each course must be approved by the Course Approval committee. A lot of Capstone Experiences could include an internship that is an Experiential Learning component. But the intention of Experiential Learning is for all those students who don’t have one provided within their major.

New Business: Assignment updates.

All of the committee is asked to look at First Year Seminar. Gary Olsen is working on the Capstone Experience. Robert Sirabian is working on the Communication in the Major rationale. Julie Schneider is working on an EL Manual. Greg Summers is working on a Transition Timeline.

Adjourned at 2:58pm.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Holland.