

GENERAL EDUCATION COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

December 1, 2009

I. Call to order

Conrad Shumaker called to order the regular meeting of the General Education Council at 1:42 PM on December 1, 2009, in the Director's Conference Room on the second floor of the library.

II. Attendees

The following persons were present:

Ed Powers

Ellen Stengel

Stephen Feldman

Renee Le Beau-Ford

Sally Roden

Charles Watson

Kathy French

Sho Uemura SGA Rep.

Shay Clark SGA Rep.

Roger Pauly

William Friedman

Stephanie Vanderslice

Conrad Shumaker

- The absentees:

Kim Eskola

Steve Ward

Jim Deitrick

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting

The minutes from the preceding (November 3, 2009) meeting were approved as corrected.

1. Open issues

Assessment plan.

- a. Charles Watson suggested that the exam be given in the fall of even numbered years to juniors and seniors (without repetition) to evaluate Quantitative thinking,

Written communication skills, and
Critical thinking

- b. Left unresolved are the issues of
 - i. how to acquire adequate information if the test be given to only half of the juniors and seniors.
 - ii. what the incentive for the students to well is.
 - 1. Ed Powers suggested putting the score on the transcript and that the test be administered every year.
 - 2. Renee Le Beau-Ford suggested that giving the test within the students' taking their last 30 units would be ideal.
 - 3. Bill Friedman asked if the exam can be required for graduation. It was mentioned that that would require approval by the Board of Trustees.
 - iii. how to compare the scores with those of other institutions (brought up by Steve Feldman).

The motion to require the exam only in alternate years failed.

IV. New business

Writing proposals: Moving 1320 to sophomore year; 1310 would remain as scheduled. After considerable discussion a final decision was postponed, pending a promised revision and possibly further justification (Ellen Stengel). If a Writing Across the Curriculum program is developed, three writing courses would eventually be required: 1310, 1320 (with a new number) and a writing intensive course.

V. Adjournment

Dr. Shumaker adjourned the meeting at **2:33 PM**.

Minutes submitted by: William H. Friedman