

Plymouth State University  
General Education Committee

Monday, October 23, 2006  
Minutes

Present: K. Arecchi, C. LeBlanc, M. Campbell, B. Bechard, G. Gould, J. Krueckeberg (Scribe), L. Lindgren (Chair), R. Miller, F. Otucu (observer), D. Zehr

- I. Called to Order at 3:32
- II. Minutes of September 25, 2006 approved by all voting members

3:35: Arrival of Arrechi and Zehr

- III. Committee Reports
  - A. Curriculum Committee: SS and Ed courses on today's GE agenda passed CC;
  - B. Executive Council: GITF charge to review bylaws has begun a discussion phase; Discussing a 4-Credit/32-class model for the campus.
- IV. New Business – All approved courses will sunset in 2011
  - A. Department of Social Sciences
    1. PODI 1xxx, Politics and Art, as a Creative Thought Direction; unanimously approved.
    2. PO 3xxx, Political Parties, as a Technology in the Discipline Connection; unanimously approved.
    3. HIDI 1xxx, Creating a Nation, as a Self-Society Direction; unanimously approved.
  - B. Education – ED 2200, Using Technology to Support Teaching and Learning, as a Technology in the Discipline Connection and a Technology Perspective; unanimously approved.
  - C. Computer Science
    1. CS4520, CyberEthics, renew as Diversity, Integration, and Writing in the Discipline Connections; unanimously approved.
    2. CSDI 1200, Web Expressions, renew as a Creative Thought Direction; unanimously approved.
  - D. And Agenda Item F (Combined)

Discussion between GITF, represented by L. Levy, and the Gen Ed. GITF Subcommittee (C. LeBlanc, J. Krueckeberg, L. Lindgren, R. Miller) represented by Cathie LeBlanc:

    - Changing procedures on how proposals come before the committee and are approved: A Choice of being Electronic or Traditional Paper
    - Moving deadline to 2 weeks beforehand for review; if no questions, then automatically approved.

- Faculty By-Law Changes under consideration:
  - Changing language of function to reflect current practice
  - No need for Curriculum Committee member
  - Changing process of elections/voting at faculty level to:
    - Allow Chairs to be members
    - Allow multiple members from same department
- Resisting the GITF recommendation to combine GenEd committee with Curriculum Committee
- Discussing making the GenEd committee a little smaller.

E. Eric Hoffman – Should students be “so penalized” by needing to take certain Directions courses when they transfer from one major with a certain set waived, but end up in a major that does not waive them – this seems to him to be contrary to the nature of helping students, as well as set up a double standard when compared to transfer students.

*[NOTE: At this time (3:27) J. Krueckeberg had to leave the meeting and G. Gould graciously took over the minutes. The following is based on her notes.]*

Robert said the waiver is given for the entire major, not part thereof.

If you want to double-major, then the waiver does apply to the second major. The problem seems to be specific to Scientific Inquiry. It was pressure from the Science Dept. which brought about the current situation about not having a transfer of waivers; NEASC standards also demanded no such transfer. Eric pointed out that he was not a dept. emissary - he was acting only to represent students' concerns. Cathie disagreed that this was a departmental issue - rather it is a major/discipline issue: e.g. Computer Science as a Sci.Inq waiver but Information Technology does not. Robert pointed out that taking Directions courses is a good thing - not a punishment! Kathleen believes that people should continue to bring these concerns to the Committee so that we can track feelings on campus.

G. Evaluation of the number of seats available in each direction and connection (D. Zehr).

David Zehr: has been trying to get data but still none are available.

This will go on next meeting's agenda.

Gen.Ed course evaluations: we should be able to electronically evaluate all GenEds this semester - this will be done in WebCT and instructors will be able to see who has completed an evaluation. There was a suggestion that a "prize" could be offered - entry to the lottery would be completion of the form.

3:35: The meeting adjourned.