

Minutes

October 23, 2006

General Education Committee

Present: Tracey Gladstone, Kayla Anderson, Jennifer Borup, Kelly Browning, Kris Butler, Tricia Davis, Karen Klyczek, Brian Schultz, Dan Scott, Sue Tarr, Donavon Taylor, Rich Wallace, Ian Williams (Chair), Ruth Wood.

The meeting was called to order at 10:12 am.

Approval of the minutes for Oct 16 with one correction.

Chairs report: Revised appendix GE for History Film 402-602. The chair read the relevant portion of the minutes for April 10, 2006.

Old Business. Discussion and action related to the suggestions to simplify the outcomes for general education.

Motion: Accept the alterations to goal number one. (Wallace/Gladstone)

Corrections: Add “Students will be able to:” after Advanced Communication(CA)
 Insert “clearly and proficiently” after “communication” in the outcomes part b for CA
 Insert “print and visual material” after “read” in the outcomes part a for CW

There was some discussion concerning the advisability of making *any* alterations to the goal statements. However, there was a general agreement that the goals themselves need not be altered but that some clarification and simplification of the outcomes is desirable in the long term. The modifications that are now under discussion by this committee will have to be passed by faculty senate and would not necessarily affect courses which have already been approved for General Education until they modify their assessment plan. While we recognize the distinguished work that led to the ‘goals and outcomes’ document, we also are aware that two years of experience with GE matters demonstrates that some alterations and simplifications, particularly to the outcomes, are necessary.

The committee also recognized that combining ideas within a single outcome, in order to simplify that outcome, leads to a certain latitude of interpretation. By doing this, it is our intent that these outcomes may be, when the committee deems it fit, assessed in a holistic way, rather than requiring specific analysis of each item within the outcome.

Motion postponed.

The committee adjourned at 11:00 am.