

**General Education Assessment Committee**  
**Meeting #4, Monday, March 31, 2003**  
**Room 5302 Friedman Hall**

Present: Raja Aravamathan (Paper Science and Printing), Mike Clark (Speech Pathology and Audiology), Jennifer Daniels (Mathematics), Linda Delene (Provost's Office), Margaret Dupuis (English), Elaine Jayne (University Libraries), Lisa Paulius (Physics), Robert Reck (Marketing), and Craig Tollini (GSAC). Absent: Bassam Harik (Economics), Fred Sitkins (Manufacturing Engineering), and Paul Solomon (Art).

Linda Delene called the fourth meeting of the General Education Assessment Committee to order at 9:00 AM with the introduction of Professor Mike Clark from the Department of Speech Pathology and Audiology, who was welcomed to his first meeting as a committee member. The committee reviewed and approved the summary note for the committee meeting of 3/13/03. Delene gave a brief report on the general education review group that is advising the committee on its draft of student learning outcomes for the respective areas in the University's general education program. She noted that their advice was requested by Friday, April 4 in order to synthesize their comments into a document for committee final consideration on Monday, April 21. Three colleagues had already responded to the request so this task should move ahead with dispatch.

The Committee turned its attention to a discussion of which parts of the general education program should be assessed in what order and within what timeline. After suggestions by Reck, Daniels, and Aravamathan, there was tentative consensus that a "hybrid" approach was preferable with the overall goals of general education assessed through a commercially available instrument while specific area content would be better assessed through locally developed means. The committee then reviewed a draft calendar of program assessment by year for the next three years – recognizing that the outcomes from each assessment period could change the general education assessment calendar. There was some sense that two different commercial instruments should be used – one in the 2003-2004 year and a second in the 2004-2005 year followed by a critical evaluation of the two instruments after this two-year trial period. Delene noted that the respective faculty who teach in each of the eight areas would necessarily recommend the assessment for each area to this General Education Assessment Committee for final acceptance.

The topic of the proficiencies associated with the University's general education program was raised and it will be addressed, at least initially, during one of the committee's two May 2003 meetings. After agreement that the next meeting would determine the trial instrument for the 2003-2004 year and formal acceptance of the proposed general education assessment structure and timetable, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 AM with thanks to all who could be present.

Again, Delene requested each committee member send, electronically, their teaching/availability schedule for Summer I to [Linda.walker@wmich.edu](mailto:Linda.walker@wmich.edu) so meeting times for the Summer I term can be determined.

**NEXT MEETING: 10:15AM, Monday, April 21, 2003**