

General Education Assessment Committee
Meeting #6, Tuesday, May 13, 2003
Room 5302 - Friedman Hall

Present: Noel Allende-Goitia (Music), Raja Aravamuthan (Paper Science and Printing), Mike Clark (Speech Pathology and Audiology), Jennifer Daniels (Mathematics), Linda Delene (Provost's Office), Margaret Dupuis (English), Bassam Harik (Economics), Elaine Anderson Jayne (University Libraries), Lisa Paulius (Physics), Robert Reck (Marketing), Fred Sitkins (Manufacturing Engineering), Matthew Steel (Music), and Craig Tollini (GSAC). Absent: None.

The sixth meeting of the General Education Assessment Committee began at 10:00 AM with approval of the summary note for the committee meeting of 4/21/03. The committee turned its attention to a final review of the provisional student learning outcomes for the eight areas in the general education program. Delene indicated that these learning outcomes would be assessed over the next two years, with two areas being assessed by the faculty each semester. Aravamuthan suggested that quick communication is necessary, especially with faculty and coordinators of courses in Areas I and II which are scheduled for some initial assessment in fall 2003. Delene advised that 45 sections in Area I serving about 3,000 students and 79 sections in Area II serving about 3,200 students are scheduled for the upcoming fall semester. Faculty in some sections will be asked to consider how to measure some of the student learning outcomes in each area. Harik noted that the chairs retreat in July would be another point to bring the committee's need for cooperation to the attention of chairs. Delene was urged to communicate with all deans, chairs, and faculty coordinators for general education courses about this request for faculty assistance as soon as possible. Upon a motion by Paulius, seconded by Sitkins, the committee unanimously approved the general education area student learning outcomes until fall 2005. At that time, adequate assessment information and other related material should be available to ascertain whether a full review of the general education program is warranted.

Discussion turned to determining the methodology for administration of the *College Basic Academic Subjects Examination (CBase)* instrument during the 2003-2004 academic year. It was agreed that a representative sample of incoming freshman be administered Cbase during the fall semester; and that a similar representative sample of seniors be administered the same instrument during the spring semester of the 2003-2004 year. Extreme care will be exercised to determine a representative sample and a "sample" subcommittee of Delene, Aravamuthan, Harik and Tollini will meet at 10:00AM, Monday, June 9 to define sample parameters. Further agreement was reached to administer the assessment tool during class time, that students are informed that assessment may occur in some classes via syllabi notification, and that Cbase be administered as early in each semester as possible. Motivation of students, especially seniors will likely be a problem and Paulius, Sitkins, and Steel will work as a subcommittee to consider this issue and bring recommendations to the full committee.

Jayne raised the issue of overall objectives for the general education program in terms of information literacy. The issue of the general objectives for general education will be reviewed at the committee's next meeting, as well as initial consideration of the proficiencies. Finally, consideration of teaching schedules for fall 2003 dictate that members of this committee can only meet from 1:30 to 3:00 PM on Fridays. This time should be reserved and Delene will advise the committee about the fall meeting schedule shortly.

NEXT MEETING: 9:00 – 10:30 AM, Thursday, June 12, 2003