

**General Education Assessment Committee**  
**Meeting #10, November 21, 2003**  
**Room 5302 - Friedman Hall**

Present: Roberta Allen (Business Information Systems), Raja Aravamuthan (Paper Science and Printing/COGE), Linda Delene (Planning and Assessment, Provost's Office), Margaret Dupuis (English), Gina Garza-Kling (Mathematics), Elaine Anderson Jayne (University Libraries), Bassam Harik (Economics), Lisa Paulius (Physics), Fred Sitkins (Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering), Matthew Steel (Music), Craig Tollini (GSAC) and Heidi Vogley (Speech Pathology and Audiology). Absent: Carol Weideman (HPER).

Delene called the tenth meeting of the General Education Assessment Committee to order at 1:30 PM, welcoming Roberta Allen as the College of Business replacement for Robert Reck. Roberta has extensive knowledge of the University's general education program and chaired COGE for several years and is a welcome addition to the Committee. Delene then asked for approval of the 10/17/03 summary note, which was unanimously approved as written. Since Aravamuthan was late for the meeting, Paulius' report on formally transferring responsibility for assessment of the general education program to COGE was considered. A draft statement and accompany rationale were reviewed and revised by the Committee, with thanks to Lisa for her work on this task. A motion by Sitkins and seconded by Dupuis to accept the revised statement and rationale was passed unanimously by the Committee. The issue was also raised to consider making the Committee on General Education into a Council of the Faculty Senate, thus providing more visibility and focus for General Education at the University. A motion by Harik and seconded by Jayne to request that the Senate Executive Board consider this was again passed unanimously. Delene again stated that some senior level administrator should be appointed as either coordinator or Director of General Education.

After limited discussion regarding the sampling frame for seniors scheduled to take the CBASE exam in January, Delene stated she would contact the respective deans and ask them to contact the faculty of courses needed for the administration. Some committee members still had not sent enrollment levels in particular courses, which delayed the needed notification to the deans. Delene again requested all members of the committee to provide any more information regarding senior level classes and enrollment to her as quickly as possible.

The Committee then discussed the concept of information literacy, which had been raised last spring in an earlier committee meeting. Jayne had prepared a handout on the topic, clearly differentiating between information literacy and computer literacy based upon national sources. Delene also commented that at the recent Assessment Institute meeting in Indianapolis, several sessions were devoted to information literacy at various institutions. There are a number of approaches to the issue including the "add-on" approach or a more integrative approach where certain courses are designated as carrying a high component of information literacy content. It was agreed to form a subcommittee, and Jayne will chair the group along with Heidi Vogley and Craig Tollini. This subcommittee will report back in February 2004 as to a recommended approach and process for this requirement at WMU.

There was a brief discussion of the need for a December meeting, and given the paucity of agenda items, it was agreed that the December 12 meeting would be cancelled. The time of the meeting during the spring semester will be moved to 2:00 PM to accommodate teaching schedules. With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:45 PM.

**NEXT MEETING: 2:00 – 3:00 PM, Friday, January 23, 2004**