

Annual Report: 2008-2009 General Education Committee

Submitted to:

Mark Meister, Presiding Officer, University Senate
R. Craig Schnell, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Michael Robinson, University Archives

Submitted by

Larry Peterson, Chair

1. 2008-2009 General Education Committee Members:

David Anderson (students), Eric Asa(AE), Thomas Barnhart (HDE), Elizabeth Birmingham (AHSS), Xiwen Cai (AFSNR), Virginia Clark Johnson (Deans), Robert Harrold (Assessment), Catherine Haugen (Admissions), RaNelle Ingalls (Registration and Records), Charles Stevens (BUS), Margaret Lee (PNAS), John Martin (SM), Char Myhre (Library), Larry Peterson (VPAA), Ronald Storhaug (students), Kristi Wold-McCormick (Registrar). Suzan Wolter from the Dean's office in HDE served as recorder.

2. Meetings:

The Committee met twelve times during 2008-09: September 22, October 20, November 3, November 17, December 1, February 9, March 9, April 6, April 20, April 27, May 4, and June 4.

3. Policy and Procedure Changes:

General Education Transfer and Test Credit:

On November 17, Heather Soleim, Coordinator of Transfer Services in Registration and Records met with the Committee to discuss proposed NDUS guidelines to create more uniformity in handling the credits from the AP, CLEP, IB, and DSST tests. If these guidelines are adopted, NDSU will be required to give GE credit for nine courses that are not currently GE courses if students earn credit for those courses through the above exams. Those courses are: CLAS 102, ART 122, ART 124, ART 230, MATH 103, MATH 105, MATH 107, CSCI 160, and CSCI 161. In addition, NDSU will be required to give GE credit for courses we currently list as free electives only, if students earn credit for those courses through the above exams. Those courses are MUSC 122, MUSC 124, HIST 211, HIST 212, PSYC 230, CHEM 115, MATH 210, and PHYS 162.

General Education Transfer from International Economics University China (IEU)

On April 27 the Committee accepted a proposal from Holly Bastow-Shoop and Kara Wolfe to facilitate a 2+2 agreement with International Economics University China (IEU). This proposal focused on students who have completed their sophomore year at IEU and are transferring into Hospitality and Tourism Management at NDSU. These students may complete their remaining General Education courses in Fergus Falls, with some classes being taught by NDSU faculty. The GE Committee agreed that their package of IEU courses will meet the General Education requirements, with a note that unless the IEU curriculum is changed, students will need more science courses. They will also need to complete the upper division writing course when they enroll at NDSU. Finally, after process begins, some adjustments may be necessary, especially in speech communication.

General Education option for the University Honors (Scholars) Program

On May 4 the Committee accepted a the proposal from Paul Homan, Coordinator of the NDSU Honors Program to have three permanently numbered umbrella courses, one each in the Humanities, Social Sciences, and Sciences with each carrying General Education credit. This will allow various courses to be taught as they arise or faculty become available. Because of the short time frame that often occurs, the Honors Council will review and approve each course prior to its being offered, and those approvals will be reported to the General Education Committee at a specified interval. These Honors courses will be listed with other General Education courses in the bulletin and schedule.

4. Program Issues:

First Year Experience:

On October 20, the Committee voted to accept the recommendation from the UNIV 189 Task Force to replace the original twelve course objectives with a revised framework core of four objectives. The Committee also endorsed the Task Force recommendation that developing a philosophy for the first year experience at NDSU is a crucial next step.

On November 3, the Provost met with the Committee to discuss the UNIV 189 Task Force report and endorsed their findings and recommendations. On December 10, the Committee sponsored an open forum to discuss the recommendation for a revised framework core. Thirty-seven people from a wide variety of campus units attended.

On February 9, the University Senate approved the Task Force recommendation as amended to add "Financial and Money Management" as an example to the UNIV 189 examples listed under Course Objective #2 – "The students will identify/learn techniques and activities for enhancing academic success in higher education."

Wellness:

On November 3, Kristi Wold-McCormick reported on a revision to the NDUS General Education Requirements. The NDUS requires minimum 36 GE credits from following areas: Communications (9), Arts & Humanities (6), Social Science (6), Mathematics, Science & Technology (9), and Institutional Specific (6). The revision was to require that the Institutional Specific credits must be chosen from one of the above categories. Consequently, NDSU could no longer count two credits of Wellness as part of the basic 36 credits.

After examining two options for ways to follow NDUS policy and yet retain our Wellness requirement, the Committee accepted the option of modifying the Social and Behavioral Sciences category to include a subcategory of two credits in Wellness. This includes all the Wellness courses except for HNES 250: Nutrition Science which is in the Physical Science category of Science and Technology and which will be taken by a handful of students as required by their major. This option was approved by the University Senate at its January 26, 2009 meeting and it will go into effect in Fall 2009.

5. Student Petitions:

The Committee received 34 petitions from students for substitutions, waivers or exemptions. It granted 26 and denied 8.

6. Course Reviews:

The Committee began the fall semester with twenty-five courses still in the process of being reviewed from previous years. It received two submissions for new courses and six of the ten five year reviews that were due in December 2008. The Committee completed action on one new course and fourteen existing courses in 2008-2009. The Committee ended the year with sixteen courses still in the process of being reviewed, twelve of which had been returned for additional information.

Approved for New General Education with Outcomes (1)

Course No.	Category	Course Title	Proposed Outcomes	Date of Senate Approval
ENGL 326	C	Writing in the Design Professions	1, 6	12/8/08

Courses with Successful Five-Year Reviews, Approved by Senate for General Education with No Changes (10)

Course No.	Categories	Course Title	Recommended Outcomes	Date of Senate Approval
ANTH 111	B, D	Introduction to Anthropology	3, 6	05/11/09
CDFS 186	B	Consumer and Society	2, 3	01/26/09
ENGR 311	A	History of Technology in America	3, 6	03/09/09
FREN 345	A, D	Women in French Literature	3, 6	03/09/09
GEOG 304	S(p)	Eastern North Dakota Field Course	5, 6	12/8/08
HNES 111	W	Wellness	4, 6	12/8/08
HON 386	A, D	World Literature: Imaginary Homelands	1, 6	03/09/09
MUSC 108	A, D	Roots of American Popular Music	3, 6	03/09/09
SOC 412	B, D	Sociology of Sex Roles	3, 4	01/26/09
SOIL 217	S (n)	Intro Meteorology & Climatology	5, 6	12/8/08

Courses with Successful Five-Year Reviews, Approved by Senate for General Education with Changes in Outcomes (4)

Course No.	Categories	Course Title	Previous Outcomes	Recommended Outcomes	Date of Senate Approval
CLAS 101	A	First-Year Latin I	1, 2, 3, 4, 6	1, 6	12/8/08
CLAS 151	A	First-Year Greek I	1, 2, 3, 4, 6	1, 6	12/8/08
GEOG 151	B, G	Human Geography	1, 2, 3, 6	3, 6	01/26/09
THEA 280	A, D	World Theatre	3, 4, 6	3, 6	03/09/09

Course Withdrawn from General Education List of Approved Courses—at Department's Request (1)

Course No.	Category	Course Title	Current Outcomes	Senate Action
ART 124	A	Three-Dimensional Design	1, 4, 6	10/13/08

Five-Year Reviews in Process from 2005-06 (1)

Course No.	Category	Course Title	Current Outcomes	Approved
CHEM 121	S(p)	General Chemistry I	1, 2, 5	03/21/94

Five-Year Reviews in Process from 2006-07 (2)

Course No.	Category	Course Title	Current Outcomes	Approved
COMM 112	B	Understanding Media and Social Change	1, 3, 6	Spr 02
HPER 100	W	Concepts of Fitness & Wellness	2, 7	Spr 02

Five-Year Reviews Received in Academic Year 2007-08 and Under Review (11)

Course No.	Category	Course Title	Current Outcomes	Approved
ADFH 411	A, D	Food and World Cultures	1, 2, 3	Spr 03
BIOL 126 /ZOO 126	S(n)	Human Biology	2, 5	Spr 03
BIOL 151L	S(n)	General Biology II Laboratory	5, 6	Spr 03
CDFS 230	B	Life Span Development	3, 6	Sp 03
CDFS 475	B, D	Children and Families Across Cultures	3, 6	Sp 03
CSCI 122	R	Beginning BASIC/Visual BASIC	1, 5	Spr 02
PSYC 210	B	Human Sexuality	2, 4, 5, 7	Spr 02
PSYC 211	B	Introduction to Behavior Modification	2, 4, 6	Spr 02
PSYC 270	B	Abnormal Psychology	4, 5	Spr 02
THRT 115	A, D	World Film	3, 4	Sp 03

Five-Year Reviews Received in Academic Year 2008-09 and Under Review (2)

Course No.	Category	Course Title	Current Outcomes	Approved
CDFS 242	W	Couples, Marriages, and Families	4, 6	Sp 97
GEOG 161	B, G	World Regional Geography	1, 2, 3, 5	Su 94

New Course Received in Academic Year 2008-09 and Under Review (1)

Course No.	Category	Course Title	Outcomes
HNES 355	B, G	International Health	2, 3

Five Year Reviews Due December 2008 and Not Received (4)

Course No.	Category	Course Title	Current Outcomes	Approved
Csci 159	R	Computer Science Program Solving	5, 6, 7	Fall 04
HIST 431	A, D	The North American Plains	3, 6	Fall 99
PLSC 211	S(n)	Horticultural Sciences	5, 6	Spr 04
WS 110	A, D	Introduction to Women's Studies	1, 6	Sp 04

7. Conferences and Professional Development:

Elizabeth Birmingham and Larry Peterson attended the Association for General and Liberal Studies (AGLS) National Conference, "Wholeness in General and Liberal Education" on September 25-27, 2008, in Ashville, North Carolina. Along with Kevin Brooks, they made a panel presentation, "Beyond First Year Composition: A Vertical Writing Curriculum in a General Education Program."

Larry Peterson organized the panel "Are We Preparing Our Students to be Educated People in the 21st Century?" at the NDUS Arts and Humanities Summit, in Bismarck, ND, on October 10, 2008. This laid the groundwork for a NDUS General Education Summit that was held in spring 2009 to discuss the existing state general education requirements.

Larry Peterson attended the Association of American Colleges and Universities Conference, "General Education, Assessment, and the Learning Students Need" in Baltimore on February 26-28, 2009.

Elizabeth Birmingham, Char Myhre, and Larry Peterson represented NDSU at the first NDUS General Education Summit at UND on Friday, April 24.

NDSU applied for and was accepted to the Association of American Colleges and Universities Institute on General Education, May 30-June 3, in Minneapolis. Robert Harrold, Char Myhre, William Martin, Kevin McCaul, and Larry Peterson were the NDSU team. The focus was on planning a process for the campus to re-evaluate the existing GE program.