GENERAL STUDIES COMMITTEE
Minutes
November 8, 2006

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call: Members present: Dr. Amanda Diggs, chair; Dr. Judy McCarley; Dr. Amy Spurlock; Prof. April Parker; Dr. Isabelle Warren; Dr. Debbie Moore; Dr. Lan Lipscomb
Members absent: Ms. Didi Karn; Dr. Tom Dunn; Dr. Charlotte Billings, Dr. Bryant Shaw; Dr. Hal Fulmer; Prof. Ron Portis

II. Approval of Agenda: added request from Information Systems

III. Approval of Minutes of August 26, 2006
Correction of Dr. Lan Lipscomb’s name

V. Proposals (Action)
A. Math- Dr. Dianne Porter: effecting math majors only
For mathematics majors, Area III currently requires students to take one course from a list of courses that includes MTH 1125, Calculus I, and pre-requisites, MTH 1112, Pre-Calculus Algebra, MTH 1114, Pre-Calculus Trigonometry, and MTH 1115, Pre-Calculus Algebra and Trigonometry. Calculus I is designated as the preferred course. This modification will remove the ambiguity created with the list and makes Calculus I required in Area III rather than preferred.

A Calculus I requirement in Area III eliminates the need for listing MTH 1114, Pre-Calculus Trigonometry, and MTH 1125, Calculus I, in Area V. They are currently listed with a note “if not taken in Area III.” The inclusion of MTH 1114 in this list requires all students to take this course whether they need it as a pre-requisite to MTH 1125 or not. For many students, this adds a required three hours that is not needed. For students who need to take pre-requisites to MTH 1125, those courses will count as free electives.

- Proposal approved without revisions

B. Speech- Dr. Amanda Diggs: E-course design team requested approval to update the course description for SPH 2241, Fundamentals of Speech

The current course description is too broad in nature to accurately reflect the true nature of the Fundamentals of Speech course. The current description could easily describe a hybrid, “human communication” course. The Troy University SPH 2241 course focuses specifically on public speaking. The updated course description clarifies the focus of study for the course.

Proposal approved without revisions
C. Information Systems (which faculty?): In the catalog, there exists approval for CLEP testing for IS 2241. No one is sure who approved this as a CLEP examination equivalent to the course. It has been presented unanimously by Troy IS faculty as NOT representative of the content that is taught in IS 2241. It is IS faculty recommendation that this CLEP examination be removed from the catalog.

Recommendation from committee that all campus site IS faculty be consulted on this before it is approved. We will vote on the proposal electronically after this input has been gathered.

VI. Proposals (Discussion)

■ Distance Learning tutorials- Dr. Scott Bailey
   No action taken, as this information should be included in the summative modules (see reports)

VII. Reports

■ CAAP (College Assessment of Academic Proficiency) Pilot – Assessment instrument
   CAAP is being implemented now; is no longer a pilot

■ MAPP (Measure of Academic Proficiency and Progress or Academic Profile – GECE) – Assessment instrument
   a. Meets proficiency levels/Doesn’t meet proficiency levels: will now go on student transcripts as an incentive for students to perform well on the MAPP
   b. Creation of summative/remediation modules: instead of remediation, modules will be created as a pre-test measure (either in TROY 1101 or as a discrete course. If a student does not meet proficiency level, student may retake the MAPP
   c. A tentative fee of $15 will be assessed to cover the cost of the discrete course

■ Portland States’ Prior Learning and Post Learning Surveys:
   a. GSC has been charged with the creation of the prior and post learning surveys
   b. Issues: we don’t know which GS courses will use these surveys (not all will); we don’t have experience in item writing, and reliability and validity of testing; many GS courses are undergoing eCampus redesign, so learning outcomes might be revised, which is what the surveys should be based on; and some of the GS committee members do not have direct involvement with GS courses and feel discipline input is vital to this process
   c. Dr. Diggs will communicate concerns to Dr. Fulmer

■ Dean of First Year Studies: it is in the plan to have a Dean of Two year studies (title forthcoming) whose focus will be academic

VIII. Other Business

IX. Adjournment at 2:30 pm. Next meeting TBA, in January 2007