GENERAL STUDIES COMMITTEE
Minutes
March 13, 2007

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. Lan Lipscomb; Dr. Tom Dunn; Dr. Bryant Shaw
Members absent: Ms. Didi Karn; Dr. Charlotte Billings; Dr. Hal Fulmer; Prof. Ron Portis; Dr. Debbie Moore;
Guests: Dr. David Dye, Mr. Ray Smith, Dr. Bill McDaniel

III. Approval of Agenda (no changes)

IV. Approval of Minutes (no changes)

V. GSC Proposals

a. Speech Curriculum Revision Proposal: overview of proposal given by Dr. David Dye. Questions answered regarding number of hours in the proposal (not a change in hours, but a redistribution under Area V); whether this would be an elective open to any student (it is); and how this applies to the discipline of Communication Studies under Area V; and why course designator was changed from SPH to COM (to better reflect national trends and content). Philosophical discussion regarding perceived trend of disciplines to use Area V of General Studies for pre-requisites to the exclusion of liberal arts electives.

*Recommendation was made to change the title of one course to Ethnicity and Race in American Media rather than Ethnicity and Racism in Media; accepted by Dr. Dye for amendment.

* Recommendation made to express concern to Undergraduate Academic Council as to the perceived ‘packing’ of Area V courses by those designated as pre-requisites to the exclusion of liberal arts electives

*Motion was made and seconded to accept the proposal with wording change to course as above; Motion carried.

b. Music Proposal: overview of new course presented by Mr. Ray Smith as an alternative course to current MUS 1131 Music Appreciation in
General Studies. Concerns raised concerning ambiguity in syllabus as to lack ‘world’ or ‘global’ tie in related to current course inclusion as an international/global course requirement; legal liability of requiring students to attend a live national concert (nightclub); eCampus course delivery implications (if this is approved as GS course, it would be required to be offered in every campus, including eCampus).

*Proposal tabled by Mr. Smith after group discussion/suggestions for revision. Mr. Smith request group input for revision of course.

*Recommendation made to examine current Music appreciation course for inclusion of international/global content

VII. SLOs:
Overview presented by Dr. Diggs as to revision of SLO’s based on input from the faculty working on SACs accreditation.

*Recommendation made to use two of the goals and SLOs that are measurable; and create work teams to find ways to evaluate the other two goals and SLOs so that they are measurable as well. Motion made and seconded for recommendation; motion carried.

Work team volunteers:

Goal “Informed and ethical participants in democratic societies”: Dr. Bryant Shaw & Tom Dunn

Goal “Cognizant of the role of diversity within a global context”: Dr. Amanda Diggs and Dr. Amy Spurlock

Work teams will meet to assess evaluation/measures for these goals and report back to committee. Other committee members are highly encouraged to provide input through email or Discussion Board.

VIII. Old Business (none)

IX. Schedule next meeting date TBA (requested via email)

X. Adjournment