

Gen Ed Task Force  
College of Agriculture Listening Meeting  
2/8/08 – 3:30 p.m.

Notes prepared by: Clint Blaes

Task Force members in attendance: Emily L., Vicki C., Clint B., Greg Z.

Greg Z. gave the quick summary.

Will this add any hours? No. Period.

Some difficulty anticipated in Horticulture. Maybe add up to nine hours?

Who tags the courses? Will the advisers have to determine? The departments that teach the courses will tag them.

Who approves the tags? Administration will oversee the program. The provost will determine how it's administered.

Why is communication not required? It is a component. It will be assessed as part of the whole university education.

Will the courses stay tagged forever? Will be worked out in the implementation.

Are the eight categories fixed? Those have been accepted by the provost. Maybe some minor tweaking in a couple of the areas.

What is the biggest concern for practical implementation? Initial concerns about courses being evaluated as they are in UGE. But, this will provide a lot more choices for students, and they will have an education in a lot more area. Much broader education.

How will this affect languages? Would fit under interpretative, or global community?

Concerned that we don't know how they are going to fit the curriculum when no one knows how courses are going to be tagged.

First-year experiences have to be considered at the same time?

Would a week intro on the history of animal use count for past and future? Probably not. What is a significant focus?

Why does it have to be a three-hour course? International Ag Seminar one hour? We are aware of this concern and we're discussing how this can be flexible. Initial three-credit because that's what we know.

Can a course be tagged twice? Yes. Can a course be used for more than one? No.

Concern that it should be experiences or credit hours, not both. Would really like to look forward on this. You can't be credit-bound and content-bound. Don't make it rigid. Make it flexible.

Need to make sure that certain courses that fulfill a requirement don't have enrollment explosions.

A possible solution from Fred: variable credit, but require the breadth.

Need reword on "All courses must be tagged."

Two classes in the major would you still have to take a science course in the major to count, or do you just automatically get the content area by being an animal science major? No, you still have to take the class.

If a student changes their mind about how they want a class to count, can they do that?

What about when they change their major? Should be easier.

What about transfer students? They will count if they are tagged here. Must take four content areas here. (This would require more than six hours currently required.)

Advice that there needs to be more content in this proposal. Needs details and examples.

What about the timeline? Should we slow down and get it right?

Can they take classes in the same department but not their major? If they have different prefixes, different degree programs, it is ok.

What about assessment? Not a part of this proposal. This is something that will have to be figured out farther down the line.

Comment on page 23, administration. Probably not a dean-level. Will require a person who can implement the plan. Should not be a part-time responsibility of a full-time faculty member.