

Undergraduate General Education Task Force

Meeting Minutes

8 February 2001

James Goddard, Michael Dikeman, Pat Pesci, Peter Mudrack, Susanne Siepl-Coates, Jennifer Bay, Reginald Pittman, and Diane Tuinstra were present at the February 8, 2001, meeting. Diane Tuinstra took the minutes.

DISCUSSION OF MINUTES

The minutes for the January 18, 2001, meeting of the UGE Task Force were approved as distributed.

PHASE II ASSESSMENT

Goddard and Dikeman met with the Academic Affairs committee on 6 February, 2001. The Academic Affairs committee was very receptive and approved the report.

Although it was deemed too late to begin a review of a large number of classes this semester, Dikeman proposed that the UGE Task Force perform an initial run this semester of a dozen classes, to include representative courses from each college. The questionnaires will be distributed to department heads, faculty, and students by March 1, 2001; these questionnaires will be returned to Assessment by April 1 and from there sent to the UGE Task Force by May 1. These courses will then be reviewed at the May 3 meeting. Copies of the original proposals will also be sent to the heads of departments to determine if the courses have changed since they were approved for UGE credit.

A list of UGE courses and the dates they were approved will be obtained from Vicki Clegg and distributed to the UGE Task Force members. The twelve courses to be assessed this semester will be chosen from among the earliest approved courses.

In the next week Dikeman and Goddard will meet with Kurt Gunnell in Assessment to look at the questionnaires and finalize the questions.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

A new chair will need to be selected for the UGE Task Force at the April 5 meeting. New committee members to replace those whose terms expire this fall will also need to be chosen. Both the new members and those they will replace should attend the May meeting where the twelve courses will be reviewed.

COURSE PROPOSALS

HIST 511 History 511: Environmental History was discussed at the November meeting. At that meeting, the committee had questions concerning the course proposal which were subsequently passed along to the HIST 511 instructor. The instructor, James Sherow, responded by email recently and his response to the earlier questions was handed out to the committee and discussed. Upon review of Dr. Sherow's answers, it was decided that concerns remained about active learning and experiential aspects of the course.

Goddard proposed that the course be approved on the first reading and that the committee look at the original proposal and the course website. The committee should then email comments regarding the course to the rest of the committee members, with a deadline of February 22, 2001. The course will then be discussed at the March 1, 2001 meeting on its second reading. The motion was made by Pesci to approve this proposal, Mudrack seconded the motion. The motion carried.

INTERNSHIPS AND FOREIGN STUDY PROGRAMS

Siepl-Coates brought to the attention of the Task Force that the College of Architecture, Design, and Planning has internships and study-abroad programs which offer experiential, hands-on, active learning opportunities for the students. She requested that the Task Force consider the possibility of approving these programs and possibly study- abroad programs across the campus for UGE credit. It was agreed that these would be meet the experiential and active learning requirements for UGE, but possible objections could be that some programs are open only to majors and that courses taken abroad may be challenged because transfer courses do not count for UGE credit. It was decided that more information should

be gathered on these programs and discussions should start in the Task Force as to how these programs might be approved for UGE credit. The thoughts of the Task Force should then be passed along to ICCP.

The meeting was adjourned.

**THE NEXT UGE TASK FORCE MEETING WILL BE THURSDAY,
MARCH 1, 2001, FROM 11:00 TO NOON IN UNION 203.**