

GER Task Force Meeting
March 2, 2005

Attendees: John Ambrose, Mike Carter, Allen Dupont, Jerome Lavelle, Jacqui Hawkins-Morton, Laura Severin, and Joni Spurlin. Guest: Carrie Zelna

The task force unanimously approved the Draft of the Undergraduate Education Mission Statement, the General Education Mission Statement, and the General Education Rationale to be presented to the university community.

M. Carter then introduced the "General Education Discussion Guide". A question was raised about the use of the word "interdisciplinary" in Question #2. It was pointed out that this word may mean different things to different people and that the Rationale mentions "diverse and integrative disciplinary experiences" rather than "interdisciplinary" experiences. It was agreed that Question #2 would be rewritten to reflect the rationale. In addition, Questions #2 and #3 were interchanged to make the question order more logical. The "Discussion Guide" was then approved by consensus.

The discussion then turned to the issue of introducing the Draft Mission Statements and Rationale to the widest possible audience at NCSU. J. Ambrose, L. Severin and K. Esbenshade will introduce the drafts and the discussion guide at the regularly scheduled meeting of the Associate Deans and request that they take the drafts to their colleges for discussion. Each associate dean will be free to introduce the drafts to their college in whatever manner seems appropriate to them. All but three of the colleges are represented by one or more members of the GER Task Force; J. Ambrose asked for volunteers to serve as "consultants" to those colleges not represented. L. Severin, J. Spurlin, and A. Dupont volunteered.

The question was raised as to how the responses will be gathered. The GER Task Force web site will be modified to allow interested persons to post their thoughts or comments. These posts will not be available to others via the web site. Those who post comments may remain anonymous, although they will be asked to give their name so that the Task Force may follow up with them if it is desirable. However, they will be asked to identify themselves as "Faculty", "Staff", or "Student" for purposes of organizing the responses.

In addition to these individual responses, each College will be asked to respond as a College. While the cutoff for individual responses will be April 15, the deadline for College response will be May 1. Finally, J. Ambrose (or his designee) will also present the drafts to various other groups on campus, including but not limited to the Faculty Senate, the Student Senate, the Advisers' Roundtable, the University Courses and Curricula Committee, the Undergraduate

Academic Operations Council, and the Council on Undergraduate Education. While these groups will not be asked to prepare a formal response, they may do so if they wish. They will be asked, however, to submit minutes of their discussions of the GER draft materials so that the GER Task Force will have a clear idea of the issues raised during these discussions. These groups will have a response deadline of April 15.

Finally, M. Carter and A. Dupont were asked to prepare short submissions for the *Bulletin* and the *Technician*. These submissions will direct interested individuals to the GER Task Force web site. J. Ambrose also reported that the possibility of a general Faculty Meeting is still open and a decision about whether to call such a meeting solely to discuss the GER draft documents has been deferred. It should be noted that it is beyond the purview of the GER Task Force to call such a meeting.

As there was no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Allen Dupont