

**GERTF Meeting
November 18, 2005**

Members: John Ambrose, Sarah Ash, Andrew Barnes, Samara Burnette, Mike Carter, Jo-Ann Cohen, Ken Esbenschade, James Hankins II, Chris Kessler, Marian McCord, Jacqui Hawkins-Morton, Phil Moses, Jose Picart, Daniel Robison, Laura Severin, Joni Spurlin, Jordan Wallace, Carrie Zelna.

Associate Dean John Ambrose called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m. Ambrose moved to approve the Oct. 21 and Nov. 4, 2005 minutes. Motion was approved.

The past two meetings discussed the rubric and the various proposals on the table, but did not really examine how the proposal fits into the Rationale and Mission Statement for drafting a GER program.

Today's meeting began with discussing how the rationale and proposals relate and how each compares to the "Qualities of GER we want.doc." The committee has a working draft of the Mission and Rationale to direct the GER program. These should be reflected in the considered proposals.

Dr. Ambrose directed attention to the Qualities document and opened the discussion. Suggestions were made for the following items.

- For numbers 19-23, these items should be articulated as "expected."
- Move numbers 13 & 14 above the line
- Do we or should we see numbers 15-23 as "absolutes?"

A brief summary of the Proposals on the table was covered and a revision of Proposal C was introduced, thus named version C.1, and submitted to the committee. Student representatives also introduced a Proposal F on the table to be considered.

- Proposal C has a revision – named C.1 for discussion purposes.
- Student Proposal – "Proposal F"

The committee broke into the groups from the previous meeting to go over the proposals and the Qualities worksheet.

After 5 minutes discussion, the committee returned to the table. Jordan Wallace gave a brief introduction to Proposal F.

Jordan Wallace – "Proposal F" (composed by student members – Student Gov. Diversity Commission)

- This proposal looks at having course based core requirements with three distinct component courses, Diversity, Freshman Orientation, and Technology.
- Diversity Course Component: would be a 2 credit course emphasizing the history of important struggles for diverse groups over recent years, communication in the workplace, hands on activities, group projects, papers, and media.

- Freshman Orientation Component: would be comprised of a class and lab. The class would discuss campus resources , community service, lectures, performances, university activities and the lab would be an open forum used to discuss current student issues, problems or goals.
- This proposal has 36 credit hours for GER.
- Page 2 of Proposal F proposes a co-related list of courses tailored to specific interests from which students could choose GER courses to complement their major/academic interests.

Jordan Wallace and Chris Kessler went over their proposal using the Qualities Document.

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. yes 2. yes 3. Yes 4. Yes – some limits to flexibility of the program 5. Yes 6. Yes – provides Community and Diversity Courses 7. Yes – offers Science & Technology courses & STS requirement 8. Yes – important to require the PE courses; would recommend requiring 1 at the 100-level and 1 at the 200-level 9. Yes – especially with the PackTracks revision to help students with their choices of GER 10. Yes – I think it does with the FL requirement 11. Yes – College provides learning opportunities in a variety of aspects | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 12. Yes – Learning about other groups through diversity and humanities courses (could cause problems if a student doesn't take courses that are outside of their "comfort" – i.e. a woman only taking a women's and gender course instead of something unfamiliar.) 13. Fair - at present stage this is a fair proposal with the diversity courses 14. Could be better 15. Maybe 16. Maybe 17. Yes 18. Maybe (can't know how it will affect resources) 19. Maybe 20. Yes 21. Yes 22. Yes – Uses existing courses and takes advantage of on campus resources 23. Yes. |
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Committee members liked the idea of the diversity courses and wish there were more courses addressing current issues. Most members also liked the idea of combining certain aspects like communication and diversity. Also, the idea of the diversity courses is a good one because many students lack the foundation of understanding social diversity and how society got to where it is today.

Members also agreed the Science and Math portion of Proposal F was a little weak and perhaps they could add 6 credits for the Social Sciences requirement.

John Ambrose asked committee members to continue thinking about their proposals and making revisions. Reminder to keep in mind the Rationale and Mission statements as well as the rubric when thinking about the GER.

Next meeting: Committee will pick up where it left off and continue with the proposals in relation to the Qualities and Rubric documents.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Melissa McConnell.