

**Minutes of the Task Force on General Education  
November 23, 2004**

Members present: John Ambrose, Sarah Ash, Subhash Batra, Michael Carter, Allen Dupont, Ken Esbenshade, Chris Gould, Jacqui Hawkins Morton, Louis Hunt, Jose Picart, Dan Robison, Joni Spurlin, Kathy Wallace.

The minutes of the November 18 meeting were approved as presented.

Mike Carter reported on the work of the subcommittee (Carter, Severin, Lavelle, and Picart) charged with drafting a new mission statement for GER. The subcommittee chose to present a draft Mission Statement for Undergraduate Education that exposites the aims of an undergraduate education at NCSU. This mission statement was followed by the draft Mission Statement for General Education, which attempts to define the role of general education within the broader mission of undergraduate education.

The subcommittee chose to present two alternative versions of the draft GER Mission Statement. Though both versions identify “diverse and integrative disciplinary perspectives” as central to general education, they differ in how students will achieve this goal. One emphasizes academic fields, implying that general education takes place primarily in the courses. The other emphasizes “a wide range of learning experiences,” implying that everything that happens outside of the major is part of general education. This was the crux of much of the discussion that followed, and is at the heart of the work of this Task Force. The essential question is “What is general education?”

The subcommittee will need to continue to convene next semester and agenda dates will be announced via email.

Submitted by Allen DuPont.