

**General Education Committee
Minutes 12/02/02**

Place: UHALL 449

Time: 2:15-4PM

Present: Sharon Hamill (chair), Chelle Boehning, Mike Schmidt, Bob Rider, Patty Seleski, David Barsky. (Patricia Prado-Olmos out ill. Feel better.)

- I. **Minutes 11/25 approved as amended (Seleski/ Boehning). Agenda approved (Seleski /Schmidt)**
- II. **Chair's Report :** Schedules for spring. Make sure to give your unavailable times to Sharon.
- III. **Academic Programs' Report –**
 - A. Distributed EO 665 in connection with the review of GEAR.
 - B. Distributed table with a proposal for restricting UDGE offerings by academic major.
- IV. **GE Coordinator's Report (See Appendix for details)**
 - A. The Working Group on Freshmen Retention meets 12/3 to discuss proposals on the job description, the organizational structure of the office and resource estimates.
 - B. Discussion of Area C: Further elaborations on the meaning of area C criteria – GEC is looking for a balance of texts addressing the common questions in the humanities; the texts need not be from all three areas but those that are chosen must “explore the philosophical, intellectual, and spiritual bases of humanistic expression through time and in various world cultures;” in the case of LTWR, humanities should be examined through the lens of literature.
- V. **Old Business**
 - A. **LDGE prerequisite decision:**
 1. GEC wishes to provide clarity and equity with regard to the issue of prerequisites for UDGE courses.
 2. *Motion:* It is moved that the GEC revoke all previous decertification decisions in the interest of being collaborative and being collegial, and to promote a wider discussion of the issues. (Schmidt/Seleski). Passed (3-0-0)
 3. UDGE assumes the completion of lower division general education. Until such time that other mechanisms are implemented the enforcement of this assumption is left to the faculty.
 4. *Motion:* It is moved that the following language be adopted as the interpretation for the definition of an UDGE course: **As UDGE courses assume satisfaction of LDGE requirements, the only permissible prerequisite is ‘completion of the lower-division General Education requirement in _____’** (*Fill in with the appropriate area from the following – Oral

Communication (A1), Written Communication (A2), Critical Thinking (A3), Physical Science (B1), Life Science (B2), Mathematics/Quantitative Reasoning (B4), Arts (C1), Humanities (C2), American History (D6), United States and California Government (D8), Interdisciplinary Social Science (D7), Discipline-specific or Interdisciplinary Social Sciences (D), Lifelong Learning and Information Literacy (E). No UDGE course may identify a specific course or courses as a prerequisite. (Schmidt/Boehning). Passed (3-0-0)

5. *Motion:* It is moved that the effective date for any decertification of a course having a prerequisite will not be any earlier than summer 2004. (Schmidt/Boehning). Passed (3-0-0)
6. As for UDGE courses subject to decertification because of (1) the course has not been offered in three years, or (2) there was no syllabus submitted as part of the UDGE recertification process, the GEC agreed that this information will be provided in the reports to programs as part of the overall UDGE assessment.

B. Requirement that majors take their UDGE courses outside their majors. (See appendix.)

1. *Motion:* The GEC chair should bring Chelle Boehning's proposal to the Senate floor for a first reading with an additional sentence citing the CSUSM definition of UDGE as background information for the motion. (Boehning/Seleski). Passed (3-0-0)

C. Recertification Discussion

1. Discussion of Area CC criteria – plan to discuss at the next meeting (12/9)
2. Discussion of Area DD criteria -- plan to discuss at the next meeting (12/9)

Appendix

Upper Division General Education Requirement

Background:

Title 5 refers to all General Education in the CSU as "General Education-Breadth Requirements" and states that

"General education-breadth requirements in the California State University are so designed that, taken with the major depth program and elective credits presented by each candidate for the bachelor's degree, they will assure that graduates from the several campuses in the system have made noteworthy progress toward becoming truly educated persons..."

The definition of Upper-Division General Education (UDGE) developed by the 1998-99 General Education Committee, and approved by the Academic Senate on April 5, 2000 begins

"Upper-division General Education provides an opportunity for students to learn about areas of study outside their academic major..."

Many students are taking UEDGE courses in their own major area to satisfy the UEDGE requirement, which goes against the intent of Title 5. In some cases, it has been found that $\frac{3}{4}$ of the majors enrolled in UEDGE are taking a course in their own major area instead of taking their UEDGE in some other area, hence missing the breadth that UEDGE is supposed to guarantee.

Therefore be it resolved that:

No student may use a course from their major area to satisfy the UEDGE requirement.

