

General Education Committee Minutes

May 13, 2011

Meeting was called to order at 2:00pm

Members Present: Fiona Barnes, Melissa Johnson, David Julian, John Krigbaum, Mark Meisel, Andrew Ogram, Theresa Vernetson, Joe Wilson

Co-Chairs: Bernard Mair and Robert Thomson

Executive Secretary: Ann Goodson

1. Dr. Mair opened the meeting.
2. **Minutes** from the April 8th meeting were approved.
3. **UFTeach Course:**
Dr. Mair informed the committee of a proposal for a research methods course from the UFTeach Steering Committee that has been submitted a couple of times. The course consists of two components, the general research methods which apply for any science discipline, and then students are assigned individual projects to work with a mentor which are biological or physical science related but not both. Their request is to make the course B or P designations. Dr. Mair stated that he didn't bring this request to the committee because it was not appropriate. He advised them that the committee would not consider their request unless they changed their request to B and P.
4. **Course review:**
AEB 3671 *Comparative World Agriculture*, Approved N, S effective Fall 2011.

BSC 2930 *Introduction to Genomics*, Approved B, for one time approval effective Fall 2011.
5. **Common Humanities Course:**
Dr. Mair reviewed the origin, purpose and current status of the Common Humanities course and how we would include this course into the Gen Ed requirements. It was approved as of April to be added to the curriculum inventory but now the committee needs to consider approving it as a required course for all students. One of the problems is that many students come in and have already satisfied their entire Gen Ed requirement through AP/IB credits. There are other institutions in the SUS that actually require students to take Gen Ed courses at their institution. So we have two issues to consider should we require a common Gen Ed course and if so should it be this course "What is the Good Life."

After much discussion the committee agreed to postpone a decision on these issues until course evaluations and assessments of effectiveness have been obtained.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00pm