

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND
FACULTY SENATE

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE & GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Minutes for 2007-08 Meeting #2 - December 6, 2007

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:18 p.m. on Thursday, December 6, 2007, in Conference Room A in the Library. Chairperson Hicks presiding.

The following members were present: Professors English, Hicks and Larsen, Dean Richmond; Associate Dean Simonini; Ms. Rohland. Ms. Grubman served as the Provost's designee.

Although a full quorum was not present, the members agreed to vote on matters before the committee at that time and to ask members who were absent from the meeting to ratify the votes.

2. The Minutes of 2007-08 Meeting #1, October 4, 2007 were approved with the addition of Professor English's name to the list of members present.

3. Reports

- A. Subcommittee on Assessment of General Education (SAGE)

Chairperson Hicks and Ms. Rohland reported that the committee was still processing forms. Ms. Rohland reported that the returns were very slow and that it was difficult to get people to participate. She said the subcommittee had asked Professor Peters to contact people who hadn't responded. Chairperson Hicks agreed to contact Professor Peters about the status of the committee's work and his plans for the future.

- B. Subcommittee on Assessment of General Education (SURE):

Professor Larsen said that the data collection phase was continuing. He noted that the Dean interviews had been completed, academic department chairs were being surveyed through Professor Kowalski's Department Chairs' listserv and that the majority of questions that had been given as part of the SETs to a random sample of courses had been analyzed. He said that the subcommittee still intended to report in the spring.

Professor English noted that she had not received the department chair survey and Professor Larson suggested that it was possible that Professor Kowalski had not yet forwarded the survey.

3. New Proposal

Following discussion, the proposal to include the HPR 312 topic "Dwarves and Elves: the World According to Tolkien" in the Fine Arts and Literature (A) Core area was approved as follows:

HPR 312 topic "Dwarves and Elves: the World According to Tolkien" (*examine human differences. read complex texts, use artistic activity, and write effectively*) Diversity

4. Dean Richmond distributed materials on the CLEP General Examinations and on section 8.15.12 of the UNIVERSITY MANUAL on assigning general education credit for CLEP General Exams. The Committee discussed the request from University College for revisions to the policy as outlined in section 8.15.12.

After discussion, the proposed changes were approved and Ms. Grubman agreed to ask the rest of the UCGE Committee to vote on the following changes to 8.15.12:

8.15.12 Students who earn credit for CLEP General Examinations shall be allowed to apply these credits toward the General Education requirements in the following manner:

Humanities Examinations: ART 1XA = 3 credits
 ENG 1XA = 3 credits

Natural Sciences Examination: XXX1XN = 6 credits

Social Science and History Examinations: SOC 1XS = 3 credits
 HIS 1XL = 3 credits

English Composition (with essay): WRT 1XECw = 3 credits
 WRT 2XECw = 3 credits

Mathematics: MTH 1XM = 3 credits
 MTH 1XX = 3 credits

Discussion ensued with regard to the origin of the CLEP Legislation and the decision to require that people taking the CLEP Exams be out of school for at least 3 years. It was agreed that the issue might be explored further by the CAC.

5. Discussion ensued with regard to the request from the Faculty Senate Executive Committee that the UCGE Committee consider the possibility of a general education program with 4 credit courses instead of 3 credit courses and possible ramifications.

After discussion, it was agreed that the matter might be discussed further, but there didn't appear to be a mandate for changing the overall program. It was agreed that departments would determine if any of their courses should be taught for 4 credits.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted.

Sheila Black Grubman