

## Minutes

### General Education Implementation Committee Meeting

April 13, 2004

011 Graham Memorial Building

Members in attendance: Tom Bowers, Joseph Bray, Dean Carolyn Cannon, Glynis Cowell, Clayton Koelb, David Lanier, Bobbi Owen, Gary Pielak, Kelly Rowett, Dean Thomas Tweed (Chair), Guest: Stephanie Medwid

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.
2. UPDATE ABOUT ONLINE COURSE FORMS: Joe Bray and Kelly Rowett reported that the online course forms were working well. Dean Tweed reported that he had heard that some Scheduling Officers had lost data, but Mr. Bray and Ms. Rowett reported that they had not heard any such complaints.

Mr. Bray distributed a table showing the 'Revision' and 'Renumber All' totals. Regarding the 'Revision' form, 1022 courses had been saved in the system, and 633 had been submitted. Of the 2258 total revisions so far, 1127 of them were Gen Ed requirement proposals. Regarding the 'Renumber All' form, only 776 courses had no action taken on them. Stephanie Medwid will contact these departments to encourage them to renumber and submit. Of the renumbered courses, 277 were at the Gen Ed level, 662 were at the Graduate School, 3479 were at the divisional level, and 107 had made it all the way through to SIS.

Joe Bray reported that the 'Add' function would be ready in about a week.

3. REPORT ON 4/12/04 MEMO TO SCHEDULING OFFICERS: Dean Tweed reported that a memo was sent to Scheduling Officers on April 12, which asked Scheduling Officers to complete entering and submitting all data on the Revision form as soon as possible and no later than Monday, April 19. Dean Tweed reported that this memo was also sent to Department Chairs, Directors of Undergraduate Study, Department Managers, and Divisional Leaders.
4. DRAFTS OF NEW LANGUAGE FOR THE UNDERGRADUATE BULLETIN:

#### **Majors/Minors**

Dean Tweed reported on the section of the *Annual Report of the Educational Policy Committee to Faculty Council* about majors and minors. In its report, the EPC recommends that students be allowed a maximum of three specializations (majors, minors and certificates) with a limit of two majors. The section about majors and minors reads:

#### **Allowable Number of Majors and Minors**

Revision of the General Education Curriculum has raised the issue of the allowable number of specializations that an undergraduate should be allowed to pursue. Some argue that a student should not be

limited in this regard and should be able to complete as many majors or minors as he or she can. Others argue that a student who is very accomplished should expend effort in pursuing a smaller set of disciplines in greater depth rather than attempting to complete diverse sets of departmental requirements. In addition to these differing perspectives on desirable educational goals, there are also practical issues related to how students are allowed to declare majors. Students within a major get some preference in course registration within the major so some students might declare a major for purposes of registration without having a serious intention to pursue the major. If such activity occurred it would complicate an already challenging registration process.

In consideration of these issues, EPC recommends that students be allowed a maximum of three specializations (majors, minors, and certificates) with a limit of two majors. This means that undergraduates now will be able to declare, for example, two majors and one minor or one major and two minors; this relaxes current rules that allow students to declare only two majors or one major and one minor. We include certificates in our listing of specializations because it is anticipated that the creation of interdisciplinary clusters as part of the new curriculum will lead to an increase in the number of certificates offered at Carolina.

The Committee discussed the fact that some certificates are part of a major and felt that in such a case, certificates should be excluded from the limit of 3 specializations. Kelly Rowett and David Lanier stated that SIS could store a number of certificates without any problems.

The Committee thanked the EPC for their deliberations.

### **Internships/Experiential Education**

The Committee is postponing the discussion of clarifying the difference between “career” and “academic” internships until fall of 2004 because the *Annual Report of the Educational Policy Committee to Faculty Council* did not include any recommendations concerning internships.

5. **REPORT ON TRANSFER STUDENTS AND THE NEW CURRICULUM:** Dean Cannon reported on a revised, final version of the Subcommittee’s recommendations to the Implementation Committee. The revisions read:
  - Consider having transfer students enrolling in some professional schools complete 5 out of 9 Connections Requirements.
  - Students transferring credits in their major field must earn a grade of “C” not “C-“, or higher in at least three-fourths of the courses taken in a major at UNC-Chapel Hill. For transfer students, eighteen semester hours of “C” is the maximum number of semester hours required in UNC-CH major courses.
  - Students who have already earned bachelor’s degrees from other institutions of higher education will have met all General Education requirements, including Foundations, Approaches, and Connections.

The Committee approved the Subcommittee on Transfer Student’s recommendations. These recommendations will be sent on to the Administrative Boards, and from there, the EPC.

6. **CLARIFICATIONS OF RENUMBERING POLICY:** Dean Tweed and Stephanie Medwid reported on renumbering questions that had recently been raised by Scheduling Officers.

- Linked Courses – The Committee decided that an additional suffix was not needed for linked courses because mechanisms are already in place to deal with any potential registration problems.
- Planetarium Labs – The Committee decided that an additional suffix was not needed to differentiate planetarium labs from regular labs in Physics courses. The Committee decided that planetarium labs should be renumbered the same way recitations are renumbered. A new number should be created for the planetarium lab and the course description should be changed to read that the planetarium lab is a co-requisite of the course.
- Level 4 Foreign Language Courses – It was brought the Committee’s attention that when a student places into a level 4 foreign language course, that course must count as a Foundations course, but when it is offered to other students, it is offered as a Connections and/or Approaches course. The current online system does not allow a course to be both a Foundations and an Approaches/Connections course.

The Committee discussed the possibility of adding a suffix for the Foundations section of the course, but decided that students who are placed into a level 4 foreign language course should be able to fulfill the Foreign Language Foundations requirement as well as the Language Enhancement Connections requirement.

The Committee decided that the ‘General Education Criteria’ document would need to be revised to state that level 4 foreign language courses (courses numbered 204, 404 and 604) will be the only exception to the basic rule that foundations courses may not overlap with any other requirement. Stephanie Medwid agreed to revise the ‘Gen Ed Criteria’ document and send a memo to foreign language departments notifying them of this revision. Kelly Rowett agreed to e-mail Scheduling Officers to notify them that because the online course form does not allow any other course to be checked in addition to a Foundations course, the Registrar’s Office will make sure that level 4 foreign language courses fulfill Foundations as well as Approaches and/or Connections requirements. Stephanie Medwid also agreed to revise the ‘Reserved and Assigned Course Numbers’ document to reflect this change.

- Special Topics, Independent Study, and Research Courses offered to both undergraduate and graduate students – In response to questions raised by Scheduling Officers, the Committee assigned the numbers 490, 590 and 690 to Special Topics courses offered to both undergraduate and graduate students. The Committee assigned the numbers 496, 596 and 696 to Independent Reading or Study courses offered to both undergraduate and graduate students. The Committee did not assign any numbers to Research courses offered to both undergraduate and graduate students.
- Senior Honors Thesis Courses – For consistency and easy tracking, the Committee decided to add the suffix ‘H’ to Senior Honors Thesis Courses, which currently have the reserved numbers 691, 692, 693, and 694. The Registrar’s Office will add this suffix to these courses at the last stage of the routing system, if the courses do not already have the suffix.

7. **CONCERNS ABOUT DEADLINES:** Because the online system was not operational when they had hoped, members of the Committee expressed concern about delays and the implications of missed deadlines. Dean Tweed reported that he planned to meet with divisional leaders to discuss the General Education Curriculum implementation and to encourage them to keep on schedule as much as possible. The Committee endorsed this plan to meet with divisional leaders.
8. The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.