

Approved

## General Education Task Force

### Minutes of the January 27, 2011 Meeting

Present: Chair: Etta Madden, ENG; Richard Garrad, BMS; Cynthia Wilson-Hail, Faculty Senate; Danae Hudson, Provost Fellow, PSY; Pam Sailors, Associate Dean, CHPA; Cathy Pearman, RFT; Thomas Lane, Director PSU; Doug Gouzie, GGP; Justin Mellish, SGA Vice President; John Catau, Provost Office; Kathryn Hope, Department Head, NUR; Katie Shellenberg, SGA Academic Affairs; John Kent, MKT

Absent: Tim Knapp, SOC; Eric Nelson, HIS; Chantal Levesque, FCTL

Guest: Kelly Cara; FCTL

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting came to order at 8:00 a.m. in LIBR 204.

#### II. MINUTES

The minutes were approved with changes.

#### III. REPORTS ON ASSIGNMENTS

##### Student Surveys & Focus Groups

The committee discussed the distributed AAC&U college guide. It was decided that the guide could be edited to be used for MSU student focus groups. Scene setting questions will be added and unnecessary questions eliminated.

Suggested changes included:

- Keeping the meetings to 1 hour
- Have either 6-8 or 8-10 in each group
- Offer pizza as an incentive.
- Include multiple focus groups to target different markets. Configurations included:
  - first-year
  - junior
  - sophomore (which would include transfer students)
  - senior
  - honors
  - learning community
  - online group using Blackboard
  - mixed groups.

The subcommittee will revise and resubmit for full committee consideration.

##### Faculty Surveys

A Faculty Survey example handout was distributed and discussed by the committee. The purpose of the survey is to engage the campus community in identifying strengths and weakness and gather ideas on how to improve the existing gen ed program. The anonymous survey will take approximately 10 minutes to complete and include an introduction, purpose,

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how the information will be used, a rank order of goals of the gen ed program, and open ended questions. A pilot survey will be taken by the committee to gauge the time commitment.

College deans will be contacted for meetings to discuss the charge and timeline and departments are encouraged to contact the committee for one on one meeting with committee members.

### VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 a.m.

**The next Task Force meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 10<sup>th</sup> 2011, 1:00 p.m. in Library 204 (FCTL conference room)**