

## Yearly Report: 2004-2005 General Education Committee

### Submitted to:

Charles Harter, Immediate Past Presiding Officer, University Senate  
James Council, Presiding Officer, University Senate  
Eugene Berry, Presiding Officer-Elect, University Senate  
R. Craig Schnell, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Michael Robinson, University Archives

### Submitted by

Larry Peterson, Chair

### **1. 2004-2005 General Education Committee Members:**

Virginia Clark Johnson (VPAA), Michael Christoffers (AFSNR), Robert Harrold (Assessment), Kimberly Vess Halbur (PHRM, January to May), Catherine Haugen (Admissions), RaNelle Ingalls (Registration and Records), Marina loudina (PHRM, September to December), Sudhir Mehta (VPAA), Char Myhre (Library), Larry Peterson (AHSS), Doug Rymph (BUS), Josh Swanson (student), Orven Swenson (SM), Kevin Teigen (student), Cindy Urness (AE), Robyne Williams (HDE), Kristi Wold-McCormick (Registrar)

### **2. Meetings:**

The Committee met 21 times during the 2004-2005 academic year: September 2, September 9, September 16, September 23, September 30, October 7, October 14, October 21, November 4, November 18, December 2, December 9, January 12, January 26, February 9, February 16, March 2, March 23, April 20, April 27, and May 4.

### **3. Policy and Procedure Changes:**

#### **Course Reviews:**

The Committee completed rubrics for each of the seven Outcomes and added them to the course packages for new courses and five-year reviews. The rubrics are to be guidelines, rather than requirements and they are intended to communicate requirements of a course to all parties. The rubrics will be reviewed every five years.

The Committee revised the general education application forms for new courses and for the five year reviews. In addition, future course submissions may be done electronically and should be sent to the Registrar's office.

The Committee will send reminder letters to departments/programs about delinquent course submissions after three months. Reminder letters after six months will be copied to the appropriate Dean. Reminder letters after nine months will be copied to the appropriate Dean and the Provost.

The Committee agreed that courses using social sciences methods could meet Outcome 5.

#### **Student Appeals:**

On the basis of feedback from the Chairs and Heads of AFSNR and SM about substitution of courses for the laboratory co-requirement, the Committee agreed that students should complete co-requisite classes and labs and cross-discipline substitutions should be discouraged.

### **Program Issues:**

The Committee recommended the Vertical Writing proposal from the English Department to the Senate. After much discussion for two years, the Committee agrees there is still need for greater clarification in at least five areas: 1) screening students for ENGL 110 or 120; 2) staffing upper level writing courses; 3) creating upper level writing courses; 4) coordinating and assessing these courses; and 5) evaluating the courses and overseeing the requirement.

The Committee supported a request from the Registrar's Office to explore using how NDSU might use a GE category code after the course number for GE courses. .

### **4. General Education Assessment:**

#### **OAIR:**

Dr. William Slanger, Director of the Office of Institutional Research and Analysis, presented the results of the Senior Results of Academic Profile (AP) administered Spring 2004. Eight self-selected volunteers were recruited from each of the eight colleges, with 36 actually completed the 3 hour exam. The average ACT composite of the sample was 25, and average GPA 3.32. Results show that NDSU scored higher in all eight of the normative categories than the 14 peer institutions used as comparisons. The mathematics scores at NDSU are impressive; writing and reading are the weakest.

#### **General Education Integrated into the Major:**

The Committee completed its review of Categories 9 (Computer Usage) and 10 (Communication Activities). The review for Category 11(Personal and Professional Ethics) was not completed for all colleges. The subcommittee working on Category 12 (Capstone Experience) developed a thorough matrix which the Committee was unable to completely review and discuss. The Committee agreed that after it has completed its review of the matrix, it should share the outcomes of the matrix at the Dean's and Director's meeting with Provost Schnell and with the different departments via the deans. When the review of all the categories is complete, the Committee will recommend dropping Category 9 to the Senate because it is so fully integrated into the curriculum.

#### **Other:**

The Committee completed sample questions for the web-based formative assessment of all of the Outcomes.

The Committee posted the assessment of General Education Outcomes in ADFH on its homepage as an example of good practice.

### **5. Student Petitions:**

The Committee received 32 petitions from students for waivers or exemptions. It granted 26 and denied 6.

### **6. Course Reviews:**

Five year reviews for 87 courses from 23 departments were due on December 15, 2004. On March 24, 2005 the Committee sent reminder memos to the 12 departments which had not submitted five year reviews due in December for 37 courses. Departments whose courses are not received by June 15, 2005 will receive a second reminder with a copy to the Dean. Departments whose courses are not received by September 15, 2005 will receive a third reminder with a copy to the Provost.

The General Education Committee completed action on 51 courses in 2004-2005. There are 13 courses still being evaluated or revised for further evaluation.

**Approval for New General Education with Outcomes (6)**

Course No.	Category	Course Title	Proposed Outcomes	Date of Senate Approval
BIOL 111	S (N)	Concepts of Biology	5, 6	11/08/04
BIOL 111L	S (N)	Concepts of Biology Laboratory	5, 6	11/08/04
CSci 159	R	Computer Science Problem Solving (only 3 credit option)	5, 6, 7	11/08/04
FREN 380	A, D	Women in French Literature	3, 6	11/08/04
PHIL 215	A	Contemporary Moral Issues	3, 6	11/08/04
BIOL 124L	S (N)	Environmental Science Laboratory	2, 3	05/09/05

**Course with Successful Five-Year Reviews, Approved by Senate for General Education with No Changes (21)**

Course No.	Categories	Course Title	Previous Outcomes	Recommended Outcomes	Date of Senate Approval
MICRO 202	S (N)	Introductory Microbiology	5, 6	5, 6	11/08/04
MICRO 202L	S (N)	Introductory Microbiology Laboratory	5, 6	5, 6	11/08/04
PLSC 110	S(N), G	World Food Crops	3, 6	3, 6	02/14/05
ENGL 220	A	Introduction to Literature	3, 4, 6	3, 4, 6	03/21/05
ENGL 262	A	American Literature II	1, 2, 6	1, 2, 6	03/21/05
ENGL 330	A, D	British and American Women Writers	3, 6	3, 6	03/21/05
FREN 101	A, G	First Year French I	1, 3	1, 3	03/21/05
FREN 102	A, G	First Year French II	1, 3	1, 3	03/21/05
GERM 101	A, G	First Year German I	1, 3	1, 3	03/21/05
GERM 102	A, G	First Year German II	1, 3	1, 3	03/21/05
MATH 104	R	Finite Mathematics	5, 6	5, 6	03/21/05
MATH 146	R	Applied Calculus	5, 6	5, 6	03/21/05
MATH 165	R	Calculus I	5, 6	5, 6	03/21/05
SPAN 101	A, G	First Year Spanish I	1, 3	1, 3	03/21/05
SPAN 102	A, G	First Year Spanish II	1, 3	1, 3	03/21/05
ADFH 315	A	History of Interiors I	1, 2, 6	1, 2, 6	04/11/05
ADFH 316	A	History of Interiors II	1, 2, 6	1, 2, 6	04/11/05
COMM 212	B	Interpersonal Communication	1, 4	1, 4	04/11/05
SOC 110	B	Introduction to Sociology	3, 4, 6	3, 4, 6	05/09/05
SOC 202	B, D	Minorities & Race Relations	3, 4	3, 4	05/09/05
SOC 214	B	Social Interaction	4, 6	4, 6	05/09/05

**Courses with Successful Five-Year Reviews, Approved by Senate for General Education with Changes in Outcomes (21)**

Course No.	Categories	Course Title	Previous Outcomes	Recommended Outcomes	Date of Senate Approval
MUSC 103	A	Introduction to Music History	1, 6, 7	6, 7	02/14/05
COMM 110	C	Fundamentals of Public Speaking	1, 2, 3, 4, 6	1, 2, 4, 6	03/21/05
ENGL 110	C	College Composition I	1, 2, 4, 6	1, 6	03/21/05
ENGL 111	C	Honors Composition I	1, 2, 6	1, 6	03/21/05
ENGL 120	C	College Composition II	2, 4, 6	1, 6	03/21/05
ENGL 121	C	Honors Composition II	1, 2, 6	1, 6	03/21/05
ENGL 251	A	British Literature I	1, 3, 6	3, 6	03/21/05
ENGL 252	A	British Literature II	1, 3, 6	3, 6	03/21/05
ENGL 261	A	American Literature I	1, 2, 6	2, 6	03/21/05
ENGL 335	A, D	Multicultural Writers	1, 2, 3, 6	1, 2, 6	03/21/05
ADFH 310	A	History of Fashion	1, 3, 6	2, 6	04/11/05
ADFH 410	A, D	Dress in World Cultures	1, 3, 6	3, 6	04/11/05
HIST 101	A	Western Civilization I	1, 2, 3, 6	2, 3, 6	04/11/05
HIST 102	A	Western Civilization I I	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	2, 3, 6	04/11/05
HIST 103	A	U.S. to 1877	3, 4, 6, 7	3, 6	04/11/05
HIST 104	A	U.S. Since 1877	1, 3, 6	3, 6	04/11/05
HIST 381	A, G	Australia and New Zealand	3, 6	3, 6	04/11/05
ADFH 486	B	Dress and Human Behavior	4, 6	4, 5, 6	05/09/05
COMM 216	B, D	Intercultural Communication	1, 3, 4, 6	1, 3	05/09/05
HIST 261	A, D	American Indian History	1, 2, 3, 6	3, 6	05/09/05

**Courses with Successful Five-Year Reviews, Approved by Senate for General Education with Changes in Categories (3)**

Course No.	Previous Categories	Recommended Categories	Course Title	Previous Outcomes	Recommended Outcomes	Date of Senate Approval
FREN 201	A, G	A, D	Second Year French I	1, 3	1, 3	03/21/05
GERM 201	A, G	A, D	Second Year German I	1, 3	1, 3	03/21/05
SPAN 201	A, G	A, D	Second Year Spanish I	1, 3	1, 3	03/21/05

**Course Withdrawn from General Education List of Approved Courses—at Department's Request**

Course No.	Categories	Course Title	Outcomes	Date of Senate Action
ECE 275	S (T)	Digital Systems I	5, 6	05/09/05

**Five-Year Reviews in Process (12)**

Course No.	Category	Course Title	Current Outcomes	Approved
ENT 210	S(N)	Insects, Humans, & the Environment	2, 3, 5	06/24/94
GEOL 105	S (P), G	Physical Geology	2, 3, 5	03/21/94
GEOL 105L	S (P)	Physical Geology Laboratory	2, 3, 5	03/21/94
GEOL 106	S (P), G	The Earth Through Time	3, 5, 6	03/21/94
GEOL 106L	S (P)	The Earth Through Time Laboratory	3, 5, 6	03/21/94
HD& E 220	W	Individual and Family Wellness	2, 4, 6	Fall 1995
ME 189	F	Skills for Academic Success	2, 4	04/20/98
NUTR 240	W	Principles of Nutrition	2, 3, 4, 7	04/11/94
POLS 110	B	Introduction to Political Science	3, 4	04/11/94
POLS 215	B	American Government	3, 4, 6	04/11/94
POLS 220	B, G	International Politics	3, 4	04/11/94
STAT 330	R	Introductory Statistics	5, 6	03/21/94

**New Course Reviews in Process (1)**

Course No.	Category	Course Title	Proposed Outcomes
CDFS 182	W	Wellness and Aging	2, 7

**7. Unfinished Business:**

There are seven major items of unfinished business.

1. Elect committee chair.
2. Complete review of UNIV 189 as requested by the Provost. Approve and implement the revised draft of GDC questionnaire on Skills for Academic Success. Summarize findings from students, faculty, and institutional data. Discuss findings with Dr. Carolyn Schnell and Ms. Nancy Kaler.
3. Complete the review of the integrated general education and capstone reviews, in particular the Capstone Course Review Committee Draft Matrix/Spreadsheet.
4. Complete web-based formative assessment tool for General Education Outcomes.
5. Regularize the Committee's role in the GERTA review policy for procedures and general education
6. Evaluate the Committee structure and membership in the Senate Bylaws, in particular requiring a minimum of three years of service at NDSU for all members and changing status from non-voting to voting for the members of the Committee from the University Assessment Committee, the Vice President for Academic Affairs, and the University Registrar.
7. Implementing the Vertical Writing Requirement by establishing mechanisms for 1) creating and approving advanced level writing intensive courses and 2) continuing assessment and evaluation of the courses and modification of the requirement.