

## Yearly Report: 2007-2008 General Education Committee

### Submitted to:

Donna Terbizan, Immediate Past Presiding Officer, University Senate  
Dogan Comez, Presiding Officer, University Senate  
R. Craig Schnell, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Michael Robinson, University Archives

### Submitted by

Larry Peterson, Chair

### **1. 2007-2008 General Education Committee Members:**

Eric Asa(AE), David Anderson (student), Elizabeth Birmingham (AHSS), Virginia Clark Johnson (Deans), Michael Christoffers (AFSNR), Robert Harrold (Assessment), Cierra Grondahl (student) Catherine Haugen (Admissions), RaNelle Ingalls (Registration and Records), Charles Stevens (BUS), Margaret Lee (PNAS), John Martin (SM), Char Myhre (Library), Larry Peterson (VPAA), Harriett Light (HDE), Kristi Wold-McCormick (Registrar). Suzan Wolter from the Dean's office in HDE served as recorder.

### **2. Meetings:**

The Committee met nine times during the 2007-2008 academic year: September 5, October 3, November 7, December 5, January 9, February 13, March 12, April 9, and April 23.

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

#### **COMM 110: Fundamentals of Public Speaking**

On July 25, 2007 the Committee voted to approve an expedited procedure (both oral and written) allowing students to test out of COMM 110: Fundamentals of Public Speaking. Step one will be a written placement exam, which will not have a fee. If the student passes the exam, the student will pay a fee and follow criteria set up by department for a speech.

#### **Course Review Process:**

Committee members piloted a new Course Review Checklist in the spring to make our reviews more efficient and uniform. They decided to try it for a year within the Committee before sharing it with those submitting courses.

#### **General Education Administrative Policies:**

On April 14 the University Senate approved the Committee's recommendation to delete the second sentence ("No more than two courses from any given department may be double counted in a curriculum.") from General Education Administrative Policies Number 1, as listed on page 22 of the *2006-2008 NDSU Undergraduate Bulletin*.

#### **Student Petition Process:**

To expedite meetings the Committee created a separate subcommittee to review student petitions and provide recommendations. This was very successful.

**Study Abroad:**

On July 25, 2007 the Committee voted to revise its policy on study abroad. One semester of study abroad will cover either Cultural Diversity or Global Perspectives and two semesters study abroad will cover both Cultural Diversity and Global Perspectives.

**4. Program Issues:**

**First Year Experience:**

The UNIV 189 Task force created in spring 2007 made its final report to the Committee in April 2008. The Task Force members were Kristen Aas, Susan Council, Brenda Deckard, Linda Fricker, Nancy Kaler, Margaret Lee, Kevin McCaul, Char Myhre, Oladotun Obadina, Jackie Schluchter, Carolyn Schnell, and Gary Smith. The Committee will study the recommendations next fall, meet with the course stakeholders, and bring a set of recommendations to University Senate.

**Vertical Writing:**

The University Senate approved four new upper division writing courses recommended by the Committee. Three of them had non-general education pre-requisites of knowledge that was essential for students to succeed in the course.

**5. Student Petitions:**

The Committee received 43 petitions from students for waivers or exemptions. It granted 32 and denied 11. In addition, the Office of Registration and Records granted administrative approval for 14 student petitions.

**6. Course Reviews:**

Five year reviews for 27 courses from 17 departments were due on December 15, 2006. One department requested to drop two of their courses from the list of approved general education courses. On March 13, 2008 the Committee sent reminder memos to the 4 departments which had not submitted five year reviews due in December 2007 for 6 courses. Departments submitted two of those courses before the end of the school year. Departments whose courses are not received by June 15, 2008 will receive a second reminder with a copy to the Dean. Departments whose courses are not received by September 15, 2008 will receive a third reminder with a copy to the Provost.

The General Education Committee completed action on 5 new courses and 36 existing courses in 2007-2008. There are 26 courses still being evaluated or revised for further evaluation.

**Approval for New General Education with Outcomes (5)**

Course No.	Category	Course Title	Proposed Outcomes	Date of Senate Approval
ENGL 322	C	Creative Writing I	1, 6	11/19/07
FREN 360	C	Studies in Language & Style	1, 6	04/14/08
GERM 220	A, G	German Culture and Society	3, 6	01/14/08
HIST 390	C	Historical Research and Writing	1, 6	05/05/08
SPAN 401	C	Advanced Spanish Writing & Grammar	1, 6	05/05/08

**Course with Successful Five-Year Reviews, Approved by Senate for General Education with No Changes (23)**

Course No.	Categories	Course Title	Recommended Outcomes	Date of Senate Approval
ABEN 189	F	Skills for Academic Success	2, 4	05/05/08
BIOL 220	S(n)	Human Anatomy & Physiology I	5, 6	05/05/08
BIOL 220L	S(n)	Human Anatomy & Physiology I Lab	5, 6	05/05/08
CDFS 135	B	Introduction to Family Science	3, 4	05/05/08
CHEM 121L	S(p)	General Chemistry I Laboratory	5, 6	05/05/08
ENGL 225	A	Introduction to Film	1, 6	12/10/07
ENGL 340	A, D	19 <sup>th</sup> -Century American Novel	1, 6	04/14/08
ENGL 341	A, D	20 <sup>th</sup> -Century American Novel	1, 6	04/14/08
ENGL 345	A, D	Themes in American Culture	1, 2, 3	04/14/08
ENT 210	S(n)	Insects, Humans, & the Environment	2, 3, 5	04/14/08
ENGR 312	B,G	Impact of Technology on Society	3, 6	01/14/08
H&CE 341	B	Leadership and Presentation Techniques	1, 4	11/19/07
HD&E 189	F	Skills for Academic Success	2, 4	05/05/08
HNES 270	W	Consumer Issues in Food & Nutrition	2, 7	05/05/08
PHIL 101	A	Introduction to Philosophy	3, 6, 7	04/14/08
PHYS 212	S(p)	College Physics II	5, 6	05/05/08
PHYS 212L	S(p)	College Physics II Lab	5, 6	05/05/08
PLSC 111	S(n)	Genetics and You	5, 6	05/05/08
PLSC 211	S(n)	Horticultural Sciences Lab	5, 6	05/05/08
PLSC/BIOL/ BOT/ZOO 315	S(n)	Genetics	5, 6	05/05/08
PLSC/BIOL/ BOT/ZOO 315L	S(n)	Genetics Lab	5, 6	05/05/08
UNIV 189	F	Skills for Academic Success	2, 4	05/05/08
UNIV 189 (AHSS)	F	Skills for Academic Success	2, 4	05/05/08

**Courses with Successful Five-Year Reviews, Approved by Senate for General Education with Changes in Categories (1)**

Course No.	Previous Categories	Recommended Categories	Course Title	Recommended Outcomes	Date of Senate Approval
CDFS 468	B	B, G	Families and Work	2, 3	05/05/08

**Courses with Successful Five-Year Reviews, Approved by Senate for General Education with Changes in Outcomes (12)**

Course No.	Categories	Course Title	Previous Outcomes	Recommended Outcomes	Date of Senate Approval
ART 130	A	Drawing I	1, 4, 6	1, 6	01/14/08
ART 210	A	Art History I	1, 2, 3, 4, 6	3, 6	05/05/08
ART 211	A	Art History II	1, 2, 3, 4, 6	3, 6	05/05/08
CHEM 117	S(p)	Chemical Concepts and Applications	2, 5	5, 6	05/05/08
CHEM 117L	S(p)	Chemical Concepts & Applications Lab	2, 5	5, 6	05/05/08
CHEM 122L	S(p)	General Chemistry II Laboratory	2, 5	5, 6	05/05/08
GEO 105	S(p), G	Physical Geology	2, 3, 5	3, 5	05/05/08
GEO 105L	S(p)	Physical Geology Lab	2, 3, 5	3, 5	05/05/08
HNES 250	W	Nutrition Science	2, 5, 6	2, 5	05/05/08
HPER 217	W	Personal & Community Health	2, 4, 6, 7	2, 6	05/05/08
PSYC 250	B	Developmental Psychology	3, 4, 5	4, 5	05/05/08
RELS 100	A	Introduction to Religion	1, 3, 4, 6	3, 6	11/19/07

**Course Withdrawn from General Education List of Approved Courses—at Department's Request (9)**

Course No.	Category	Course Title	Current Outcomes	Senate Action
AGEC 220	B, D	World Agricultural Development	1, 2, 3	11/19/07
MUSC 104	A	Introduction to Music Literature to 1825	1, 6, 7	05/05/08
MUSC 105	A	Intro to Music Literature: 1825 to Present	1, 6, 7	05/05/08
MUSC 115	A	University Chorus	1, 4, 6, 7	05/05/08
MUSC 306	A	Concert Choir	1, 4, 6, 7	05/05/08
POLS 215	B	Problems & Policies in American Government	3, 6	04/14/08
POLS 442	B, G	Global Policy Issues	2, 3	04/14/08
PSYC 221	B	Psychology in Business & Industry	3, 4, 6	05/05/08
THEA 180	A	Dramatic Literature & Style	1, 2, 3, 6, 7	04/14/08

**Five-Year Reviews in Process from 2004-05 (1)**

Course No.	Category	Course Title	Current Outcomes	Approved
ART 124	A	Three-Dimensional Design	1, 4, 6	06/24/94

**Five-Year Reviews in Process from 2005-06 (3)**

Course No.	Category	Course Title	Current Outcomes	Approved
ANTH 111	B, D	Introduction to Anthropology	3, 4	04/11/94
CHEM 121	S(p)	General Chemistry I	1, 2, 5	03/21/94
SOC 412	B, D	Sociology of Sex Roles	3, 4	Spr 95

**Five-Year Reviews in Process from 2006-07 (7)**

Course No.	Category	Course Title	Current Outcomes	Approved
CLAS 101	A	First-Year Latin I	1, 2, 3, 4, 6	Spr 02
CLAS 151	A	First-Year Greek I	1, 2, 3, 4, 6	Spr 02
COMM 112	B	Understanding Media and Social Change	1, 3, 6	Spr 02
GEOG 151	B, G	Human Geography	1, 2, 3, 6	Spr 02
HNES 111	W	Wellness	4, 6	Spr 02
HPER 100	W	Concepts of Fitness & Wellness	2, 7	Spr 02
SOIL 217	S(n)	Intro Meteorology & Climatology	5, 6	Spr 02

**Five-Year Reviews Received in Academic Year 2007-08 and Under Review (12)**

Course No.	Category	Course Title	Current Outcomes	Approved
ADFH 411	A, D	Food and World Cultures	1, 2, 3	Spr 03
BIOL 126 /ZOO 126	S(n)	Human Biology	2, 5	Spr 03
BIOL 151L	S(n)	General Biology II Laboratory	5, 6	Spr 03
CDFS 186	B	Consumer and Society	2, 3	Sp 03
CDFS 230	B	Life Span Development	3, 6	Sp 03
CDFS 475	B, D	Children and Families Across Cultures	3, 6	Sp 03
CSCI 122	R	Beginning BASIC/Visual BASIC	1, 5	Spr 02
GEOG 304	S(p)	Eastern North Dakota Field Course	5, 6	Fall 02
PSYC 210	B	Human Sexuality	2, 4, 5, 7	Spr 02
PSYC 211	B	Introduction to Behavior Modification	2, 4, 6	Spr 02
PSYC 270	B	Abnormal Psychology	4, 5	Spr 02
THRT 115	A, D	World Film	3, 4	Sp 03

**7. Professional Development:**

Larry Peterson attended the Association for General and Liberal Studies (AGLS) National Conference: Integrating General Education, Building Curricula, Assessing Programs, and Modeling Best Practices, from October 18-20, 2007 in Portland, Maine. Four members of the Committee (Elizabeth Birmingham, Michael Christoffers, Charlene Myhre, and Larry Peterson) attended Association of American Colleges and Universities (AACU) Meeting on Integrative Designs for General Education and Assessment, from February 21-23, 2008 in Boston, Massachusetts.

**8. Initiatives:**

On December 5, 2007 Provost/VPAA Schnell met with the Committee to discuss general education at NDSU. In response to that discussion, the Committee applied for two grants from the NDSU Development Foundation and matching funds from the Provost's Office to undertake five related activities in the summer of 2008:

- review current best practices in contemporary scholarship on General Education programs and pedagogies.
- study models for General Education delivery and assessment to glean a clearer picture of best practices in those areas.

- compile existing campus data sources on general education at NDSU from the Offices of Accreditation and Assessment, Registration and Records, and Institutional Research and Analysis to better understand the successes and needs of NDSU's present General Education program.
- develop from this research a plan of action and a timeline for revising the General Education program based on contemporary best practice and the needs of NDSU's specific student body.
- present this plan first to the General Education Committee for review and revision, and then to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs.

The NDSU Development Foundation did not award the Committee the funds and the Provost's office has not been able to notify the Committee if any funding will be available as of the date of this report.

### **9. Unfinished Business:**

There are four major items of unfinished business.

1. Regularize the Committee's role in the GERTA review policy for procedures and general education.
2. Complete application guidelines and materials for capstone courses.
3. Recommend action on continuing request to have military basic training meet the Wellness requirement.
4. Plan Assessment of General Education (not just individual courses).