

General Education & Diversity Committee
March 16, 2010
Submeet & Confer Notes

Present: Steven Gilbert, Jose Javier Lopez, Brian Martensen, Patricia Hoffman, Buddhadev Roychoudhury, Rachelle Toupence, Kimberly Contag, Marcius Brock

The meeting began at 2:03 pm.

MNSCU Transfer Curriculum: The guidelines for the MTC from the MNSCU website were distributed and discussion regarding the memo from MNSCU continued from last submeet. The memo identifies courses in our Gen. Ed. that may not meet the MTC guidelines and the University is to respond. One issue with many courses is that the MTC does not allow a course in more than two areas. We have this same rule in our Gen. Ed., but allow an exception to 1C (writing). Since writing is not part of Category 1 for the MTC, we list in the bulletin that 1C is not part of the MTC but MNSCU does not seem satisfied with this solution. We may have to move 1C out of Gen. Ed. and make a separate graduation requirement or possibly give it its own category in Gen. Ed. If removed, it is possible that allowing courses with more prerequisites could be allowed and more writing courses in majors could be the result. This may have some positive and negative consequences. We will need to carefully craft the policy if we do in fact need to move 1C out of Category 1.

There also seems to be an issue with Category 3 courses. Currently, a student must take two courses from this category, one of which must be a lab course (designated with an L in the bulletin). The other course need not be, but in the MTC, all courses in the category must either be lab or have a lab-like experience. Some courses which are not strictly lab courses do not apparently have the lab-like experience described in the bulletin description. It was suggested that we add a generic line at the end of each. Many of these courses, however, have a variety of lab-like experiences, so it may be necessary to have each department adjust the language. We would need to move quickly to make bulletin copy for next year.

Lastly, MNSCU flagged many courses as occupational in nature, but they are not. This was addressed the last time this process took place.

The meeting needed to end early for the Gen. Ed. committee to speak with a candidate for the Assistant VP of Undergraduate Studies and International Education.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm.

Respectively submitted by
Brian F. Martensen