

Note: Please get agenda items for the April 7 Senate meeting to Bege Bowers, English Department, by 10:00 a.m. Thursday, March 25. Provide both hard copy and a copy on an IBM-formatted diskette if you want material to appear on the online agenda.

**ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES**  
March 3, 1999

**OVERVIEW:**

Major topics presented/discussed: general education criteria (pp. 1-3); oral communication portions of the general education criteria (pp. 3-4).

**Actions/Policy Changes:**

- (1) The Senate approved a motion to amend the main GER motion by inserting the following statement at the end of the fifth bulleted item on the first page of the General Education Criteria (p. 21 of the Feb. 10 agenda): "It is understood that the requirements of general education in a given domain may be met by substitution of an advanced course if that course also satisfies the goals for that domain."
- (2) The Senate approved the following amendment to the main motion: Replace "These skills include" with "Examples of these skills include" in the fourth bulleted item under Criteria for Critical Thinking Intensive Courses (p. 26 of the Feb. 10 agenda).
- (3) The Senate defeated a motion to delete the next-to-last sentence in the fourth bulleted item under Criteria for Critical Thinking Intensive Courses (p. 26 of the Feb. 10 agenda).
- (4) The main motion carried; the Senate adopted the General Education Criteria on pages 21-31 of the February 10 Senate agenda (minus the oral communication sections; with the corrections and amendments made at the Feb. 10 and March 3 Senate meetings).
- (5) The Senate approved a motion to delete the final bulleted item ("Have the introductory oral communication course as a prerequisite") under Criteria for Oral Communication Intensive Courses on page 9 of the March 3 Senate agenda.
- (6) The Senate approved a motion to amend the first sentence under Criteria for Oral Communication Course (p. 8 of the March 3 Senate agenda) by changing "The" to "An"; "An oral communication course must . . . ."
- (7) The Senate approved the main motion to adopt the oral communication criteria (for general education) that were attached as pages 8-9 of the March 3 Senate agenda (with the amendments noted in 5 and 6 above).

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Jim Morrison, chair of the Academic Senate, called the meeting to order at 4:07 p.m.

**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**

Minutes of the 10 February 1999 Senate meeting were approved as distributed.

**RESUMPTION OF DISCUSSION OF GENERAL EDUCATION MOTION:** In accordance with Senate rules, we resumed discussion of the motion that was on the floor when we lost a quorum in February: the main motion to approve the General Education Criteria that appeared on pages 21-31 of the February 10 Senate agenda (minus the oral communication and oral communication intensive sections; with the amendments made at the February 10 meeting).

Bill Jenkins reminded us that a change the Senate approved earlier did not appear in the GER document in the February agenda or on the screen at the February meeting: in the second bulleted item under Criteria for Goal 4 (p. 30 of the February 10 agenda), replace "professional and civic responsibility" in the parentheses with "professional conduct, responsibilities associated with citizenship."

**7th Motion to Amend the Main Motion**  
(The first 6 motions were made at the February 10 meeting.)

Jim Andrews moved that we amend the main motion by inserting the following statement at the end of the fifth bulleted item on the first page of the criteria (p. 21 of the February 10 agenda): "It is understood that the requirements of general education in a given domain may be met by substitution of an advanced course if that course also satisfies the goals for that domain."

The motion was seconded; Jenkins noted that the General Education Committee (GEC) approves the insertion.

A vote was taken, and the motion carried.

**8th Motion to Amend the Main Motion**

Andrews moved that we replace "These skills include" with "Examples of these skills include" in the fourth bulleted item under Criteria for Critical Thinking Intensive Courses (p. 26 of the February 10 agenda): ". . . Examples of these skills include 'defining terms, solving problems, generating and organizing ideas or hypotheses, developing and evaluating evidence and arguments, detecting errors, biases, and fallacies, exploring issues from multiple perspectives, identifying and questioning assumptions, (and) applying knowledge to new situations.' . . ."

Jenkins said that the GEC also approves this change. A vote was taken, and the motion carried.

**9th Motion to Amend the Main Motion**

Paul Sracic moved that we delete the final two sentences (everything after "may feature additional critical thinking skills") in the fourth bulleted item under Criteria for Critical Thinking Intensive Courses (p. 26 of the February 10 agenda). He said that requiring those seeking certification to "justify their inclusion [of additional critical thinking skills] by reference to the literature on critical thinking" would make the process more cumbersome than the Senate originally intended.

The motion was seconded, and discussion followed.

Tom Shipka spoke against the proposed amendment, expressing concern that the proposed amendment might make it more difficult for faculty to attain certification for courses. Jenkins agreed with Shipka, noting that the final sentence in that bulleted item contains an appropriate description of what needs to be done to apply for certification.

Sracic revised his motion as follows: Delete only the next-to-last sentence in that bulleted item; leave the final sentence as it is. The person who had seconded Sracic's motion agreed to the revision.

A vote was taken, and the revised motion (to delete the next-to-last sentence in the fourth bulleted item under Criteria for Critical Thinking Intensive Courses) was defeated.

**Vote on the Main Motion**

A vote was taken, and the main motion to adopt the General Education Criteria that appeared on pages 21-31 of the February 10 Senate agenda (minus the oral communication sections; with the changes and amendments made at the February 10 and March 3 Senate meetings) carried.

**CHANGE IN THE ORDER OF THE AGENDA/GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT:** Jim Morrison asked for and received unanimous consent to move the order of the agenda and go immediately to the report of the General Education Committee.

Bill Jenkins explained why the GEC delayed discussion of the oral communication criteria: The committee wanted to consider material that Dan O'Neill submitted to the committee too late to be considered along with the rest of the General Education Criteria.

Jenkins moved that we adopt the oral communication criteria that were attached as pages 8-9 of the March 3 Senate agenda. The motion was seconded, and discussion followed.

**1st Motion to Amend the Motion to Adopt the Oral Communication Criteria**

Charles Singler moved that we amend the motion by deleting the final bulleted item on page 9 of the March 3 agenda (i.e., delete "Have the introductory oral communication course as a prerequisite"). The motion to amend was seconded, and discussion followed.

Singler explained that leaving this "massively unwieldy" item in the criteria would require every course submitted for oral communication certification to list an additional prereq and thus to be resubmitted through the curriculum process.

Jenkins noted that the GEC supports the proposed deletion; the GEC will consider ways to honor the intent of the original wording.

Tom Shipka called the question; a vote was taken, and the motion to delete the final bulleted item on page 9 of the March 3 agenda carried.

**2nd Motion to Amend the Motion to Adopt the Oral Communication Criteria**

Bob Hogue moved that we amend the first sentence under Criteria for Oral Communication Course (p. 8 of the March 3 Senate agenda) by changing "The" to "An"; "An oral communication course must. . . ." The motion was seconded and carried.

**Vote on the Main Motion to Adopt the Oral Communication Criteria**

Tom Shipka called the question; the motion to adopt the oral communication criteria on pages 8-9 of the March 3 Senate agenda carried (with the two amendments noted above). Morrison thanked all those involved in the "arduous" general education process "these many months."

**SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE/ REPORT FROM THE CHAIR:** Jim Morrison made the following announcements:

1. The Ohio Faculty Council has not met this month.
2. The Senate Executive Committee met and filled some vacancies on committees. The committee will meet again next week to take up other topics, including, most likely, appointing two faculty members to the Search Committee for a new president; contact a member of the Senate Executive Committee if you are interested.

**CHARTER & BYLAWS COMMITTEE:** Duane Rost reported that at the next Senate meeting the Charter & Bylaws Committee will propose a Bylaws change clarifying the "interface" of the Academic Standards Committee and the General Education Committee. Later, Charter & Bylaws will propose a change dealing with Q2S.

**ELECTIONS AND BALLOTING COMMITTEE AND ACADEMIC STANDARDS COMMITTEE:** No reports.

**ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE:** The committee attached material to the March 3 Senate agenda for information purposes; no action is required.

**CURRICULUM COMMITTEE, ACADEMIC PLANNING COMMITTEE, INTEGRATED TECHNOLOGIES COMMITTEE, UNIVERSITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE:** No reports.

**LIBRARY COMMITTEE:** Nancy Mosca reported that the committee, which has met regularly, is working on adopting the Yankee Book Peddler plan, a plan to purchase books at a discount. The committee is beginning to finalize its budget recommendations for next year.

**ACADEMIC RESEARCH, STUDENT ACADEMIC AFFAIRS, STUDENT ACADEMIC GRIEVANCE, HONORS, AND ACADEMIC EVENTS COMMITTEES:** No reports.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Tom Shipka moved that we adjourn. The motion was seconded, and we adjourned at 4:29 p.m.