

Senate says 'yea' to GER model

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The little word "Yea" had a big impact Wednesday when the Academic Senate passed the GER model.

Dr. James C. Morrison, psychology and chair of Academic Senate, said the model passed with a voice vote. A voice vote consists of Yeas and Nays. In this case, the Yeas won.

Dr. William Jenkins, head of the GER task force and chair of the history department, said the new GER will go into effect fall quarter 2000 to coincide with the Quar-

ters to Semesters changeover. The GER model has yet to include any particular classes in the plan.

"I think it's very important that the proposal passed," said Jenkins. "We need to move forward with implementation now. This gives us the opportunity to do the work that needs to be done to put a solid model in place."

Jenkins said the Academic Senate will soon create a General Education Committee with a representative from each college and a representative from each category in the model, such as a representative from the speech department for the speech goal. The committee will

also have two Student Government-appointed members. The college representatives will be elected by their college. The area representatives and chair of the committee will all be appointed by the Provost.

Jenkins said the committee will probably be formed in early summer to work on particular course approval for General Education, General Education procedures and guidelines.

Jenkins also said each department that wants a course to be a

GER

Continued on page 2

GER model for a 4-year baccalaureate degree

The GER outlines the courses all students must take to graduate with a bachelor's degree at YSU. Here are the basic courses defined in the revised model.

- **Writing** 2 courses
- **Speech** 1 course
- **Mathematics** 1 course
- **Natural Science** 2 - 3 courses
- **Artistic and Literary Perspectives** 2 - 3 courses
- **Selected Topics and Electives** 2 - 3 courses

SOURCE: THE UNOFFICIAL GER MODEL

GER

Continued from page 1

General Education Requirement must submit a proposal and syllabus that shows its adherence to the predetermined General Education goal.

"No courses are automatically in," said Jenkins.

The new GER model entails two courses of writing, and one course each of speech and mathematics in the essential skills category for a baccalaureate degree. Other classes needed for a baccalaureate degree include at least two courses in each of these categories: natural sciences, artistic and literary perspectives, personal and social responsibility, societies and institution. One course must be taken in the selected topics and electives category. Jenkins described psychology 560 as a class

that would probably fit into the personal and social responsibility category.

"It's going to be tough for engineering students," said Dr. Charles Stevens, dean of the College of Engineering and Technology. "They are going to add courses for [the students] to meet the cross goals. It will makes us struggle a little."

Stevens said he hopes the engineering school will have some courses to fit the goals that will have more relevance to the engineering student's majors.

Jenkins said the committee would start course design in the fall. The model has a lot to offer YSU students," said Jenkins. "It gives more focus in the General Education area."

Jenkins said adjustments will be made for students who will be in the midst of the transition.