Note: Please get agenda items for the February 3 Senate meeting to Bege Bowers, English Department, by 10:00 a.m. Thursday, January 21.

ACADEMIC SENATE MINUTES
January 6, 1999

OVERVIEW:

Major topics presented/discussed: criteria for general education courses (pp. 2-3).

Actions/Policy changes:

(1) The Senate approved the attached criteria for admission of Senate Bill 140 and EAOP (early admission) students (see Appendix A).
(2) A motion to amend the first non-italicized bullered item on p. 3 of the agenda was defeated (p. 3 of these minutes)
(3) A motion to refer the general education criteria back to the General Education Committee carried (p. 3 of these minutes).

CALL TO ORDER:

Jim Morrison, chair of the Academic Senate, called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

Minutes of the 2 December 1998 Senate meeting were approved as distributed.

RESUMPTION OF BUSINESS FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

We lost a quorum with business on the floor at the December 2 meeting; procedures call for that business to be cleared from the floor at the beginning of the January 6 meeting.

December 2 meeting: Louise Pavia, reporting for the Academic Standards Committee, moved that we accept the Senate Bill 140 and EAOP admission criteria that were attached to the December agenda (see Appendix A of either the January or the December minutes). The motion was seconded and followed by considerable discussion. A motion to close debate was made, seconded, and carried before the December meeting adjourned because of the loss of a quorum.

January 6: At the January meeting, a vote was taken, and the motion to accept the proposed criteria for admission of Senate Bill 140 and EAOP students carried.

SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE / REPORT FROM THE CHAIR: No report.

CHARTER & BYLAWS COMMITTEE, ELECTIONS AND BALLOTING COMMITTEE, ACADEMIC STANDARDS COMMITTEE, ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE, CURRICULUM COMMITTEE, ACADEMIC PLANNING COMMITTEE: No reports.

GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE: Bill Jenkins reported that the General Education Committee has gone through a process of reappointment and reelection. The members are as follows:

Elected
Appointed
Nate Ritchey (A&S) Clyde Moneyhun (Writing/Skills Area)
Robert Levin (Education) Allen Hunter (Natural Sciences)
Nancy Mosca (HHS) Darla Funk (Artistic & Literary Perspectives)
Jeannette Garr (Engineering and Technology) Tom Marafiu (Societies & Institutions)
Joe Antenucci (WCBA) Linda Tessier (Personal & Social
Frank Castronovo (FPA) Responsibility

Student Members
Gen. Ed. Coordinator/Committee Chair Robert Harvey
Bill Jenkins Tara Mauch

In the fall, the committee decided to constitute a number of subcommittees in the areas designated under the Gen Ed model. The result of those subcommittees is the material that was attached to the January agenda (pp. 3-13). These criteria are intended as guidelines for faculty proposing courses.

Jenkins distributed editorial changes to the criteria on the agenda (see Appendix B) and noted a few additional items: references to the 700 (3000) and 800 (4000) levels in bullet 4 mean that these courses are to be at the baccalaureate level (p. 3 of agenda); the statement "All general education courses must be designed for non-majors" (p. 3 of agenda) does not mean that these courses cannot be taken by students in the major if a department or program wishes majors to take them (i.e., there can be multiple audiences in these courses). The Committee is pulling the oral communication and oral communication intensive sections (pp. 4-5 of agenda) until later.

Jenkins moved that we approve the general education criteria on pages 3-13 of the agenda (with the editorial changes in Appendix B of these minutes and minus the oral communication and oral communication intensive sections on pp. 4-5 of the agenda).

The motion was seconded, and discussion followed. Topics of discussion included the need to clarify the statement about designing courses for non-majors, questions about whether courses can "double count" for both gen ed and the major, and coherence (or lack thereof) in the model.

******

In the course of discussing Jenkins's motion, a series of motions to amend or table were made, questioned, and withdrawn. A summary follows:

Duane Rost moved that we amend Jenkins's motion by striking the first non-italicized bullet on page 3 of the agenda; the motion to amend was seconded.

Charles Singler asked Rost to withdraw the amendment so that another one could be made; Rost agreed to withdraw the amendment but reserved the right to move to table later; the seconder of Rost's amendment accepted the withdrawal.

Singler moved that we table Jenkins's motion but continue discussion on the motion as originally presented so that some of the language can be clarified before a vote. Singler's motion was seconded.

Rost raised a point of privilege, asking Singler to withdraw his motion to table so that discussion could continue. Jim Morrison ruled that if we were to table Jenkins's motion, a new motion would have to be made before we could continue discussion. Singler agreed to withdraw the motion to table but reserved the right to move to table later; the person who had seconded Singler's motion agreed to the withdrawal.

Sarah Brown-Clark asked for clarification about whether tabling the motion would mean that we could not discuss the document. Jim Morrison ruled that tabling Jenkins's motion would remove it from the floor; however, since Singler agreed to withdraw the motion to table, we can continue to discuss the original motion and the document it refers to.

******

Brandon Schneider moved that we amend the first non-italicized bullet on page 3 of the agenda to read "All general education courses at the 500 level (1000 under semesters) and 600 level (2000 under semesters) must be designed for non-majors."

The motion was seconded. A vote was taken, and the motion was defeated.

******

Discussion continued, focusing on whether to deal with the criteria a step at a time or as a single package, whether the second italicized bullered item on page 3 should say "capstone course" or "the oral communication course," whether adding Writing II as a prerequisite is an editorial or a substantive change, whether the criteria for multiple-goal courses on pp. 12-13 refer to interdisciplinary courses, whether courses can double count for the major and gen ed or in more than one gen ed area, and how we can create coherence and ensure breadth under the categories within the model.

Additional discussion focused on how we can create room for students to fulfill requirements in gen ed plus the major and minor, whether departments can tailor gen ed courses for a particular major, the need to clarify that 500- and 600-level courses (not just 600- and 700-level courses) can be baccalaureate-level courses, whether natural science students taking a science lab must also take an investigative lab designed for non-majors (or whether calculus students should have to take a math course designed for non-majors, a business student should have to take an econ course designed for non-majors, etc.), whether "designed for non-majors" should say "available for non-majors," and whether every bullet in the document must be met in its totality (if so, why single out math and say on page 9 of the agenda that "each" of the six objectives must be met?).

Singler asked Jenkins whether he would withdraw his motion and bring a revised, cleaner, and more complete document to the next Senate meeting; Jenkins declined.

Bob Hogue moved that we refer the matter back to the General Education Committee. The motion was seconded and carried.

Jim Morrison noted the loss of a quorum and adjourned the meeting. Bill Jenkins asked people to send suggestions to the General Education Committee.

INTEGRATED TECHNOLOGIES, UNIVERSITY OUTREACH, LIBRARY, ACADEMIC RESEARCH, STUDENT ACADEMIC AFFAIRS, STUDENT ACADEMIC GRIEVANCE, HONORS, AND ACADEMIC EVENTS COMMITTEES: No opportunity to report because of the loss of a quorum.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: No opportunity for any.

NEW BUSINESS: No opportunity for any.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m. because of the loss of a quorum.