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The College of Arts and Sciences

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TO: Academic Standards Committee (ASC)

FROM: Charles Singler, Chair

DATE: March 3, 1998

SUBJECT: Minutes of March 2, 1998

Minutes of March 2, 1998; 4 p.m.

Present: Riley, Law, Mears, Sirbu, Singler, McCloud, Conser, Kornbluth

1. Minutes of February 16, 1998 were approved.
2. Singler reported on actions of 2/25 Senate meeting
3. Discussion of revised amendment 7 (Natural Sciences). The ASC agreed to replace previously approved amendment 7 (see minutes of Jan 19) with "Assuming that the standard semester course will be 3 credit hours (semester hours) as recommended in the General Education Task Force report, the ASC moves that Natural Science courses designed to include a laboratory component shall be at least 4 credit hours (SH)."
4. Discussion of amendment 5 that was referred back to committee by The Senate. It was agreed to divide the components of the previously approved amendment into 3 separate amendments.

The ASC will move amendment 5.1 to insert under I Baccalaureate Degrees. A Essential Skills [and before (1) Writing]

"It is expected that GER courses will attempt to integrate goals 1, 2, and 3 wherever possible. Writing I, Writing II, and the oral communication course must incorporate all three."

The ASC will move amendment 5.2 to revise I.G. Capstone to read: "Students must take one upper division capstone course in the major or from another area that satisfies general education criteria. Capstone courses are expected to incorporate writing, oral communication, and reasoning critically as appropriate in each discipline."

The ASC will move amendment 5.3 to insert I.A.(3) Critical Thinking: "To encourage critical thinking, GER courses should include discussions of the logical means of defining terms, stating assumptions, distinguishing inductive from deductive reasoning, constructing and evaluating

arguments, eliminating common fallacies, and organizing coherent theories."
and
to renumber I.A. (3) Mathematics to I.A. (4).

5. The ASC agrees to the language of (E) Personal and Social Responsibilities.

6. Discussion of (F) Selected Topics and Electives.

a) For clarification purposes, revise the descriptive language to read "Students must take 1 course in this area form a list of courses that combine the goals in ways that do not fit into the areas above. Alternatively, a student may select one general-education approved course from mathematics, natural science, artistic and literary perspectives, and societies and institutions." [underlined phrasing is added]. Approved.

b) After considerable discussion, it was decided to defer action on category F until the next meeting.

7. The ASC agrees to the language of (G) Capstone as revised by amendment 5.2 [see above].

8. The ASC agrees to the language of II Associate Degrees as stated in the working draft of 2/25/98.

Meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.