

**AD HOC COMMITTEE ON GENERAL EDUCATION
REVISION AND IMPLEMENTATION (GERICO)**

POLICY AND PROGRAM SUBCOMMITTEE

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2009 – 9:00 A.M.
HAMPSHIRE HOUSE CONFERENCE ROOM #120
MINUTES**

Present: May (Chair), Goodenough, McCracken, Lenzi, Cunningham, Harvey

1. Request to Re-Join Physics Lecture and Lab Courses into Four-Credit Lecture+Lab Courses (Memo of 10/2/09 from Donald Candela)

Subcommittee approved the overall direction, goals, and methodology in the memo. Given the GERICO approval process which has been established, implementation should take the following course:

- a) Physics Dept. should submit each course for the 1 credit addition of the lab, under the old course number (which has Gen Ed Approval), using the online system;
- b) once the approval process has been completed, the change of course number for each new 4-credit course will be approved as a minor course change;
- c) additional questions should be referred to Bryan Harvey.

2. Psychology is willing to convert PSYCH 100, but can't limit it to Freshmen in NSO. It has to be available to continuing students for the April 2010 pre-registration. How will we handle this?

This is no longer a problem--there are plenty of 4-credit courses converting.

3. Do we really mean it when we say that the 4th credit is equivalent 2.5 hours out-of-class preparation for each credit? And if so, does that 2.5 hr/wk/per credit extend to the entire 4-credit package (via the previous 3 credits)? Do we truly intend that Gen Ed students in 4-credit courses at the 100 - 200 level spend 8-10 hours weekly on their Gen Ed course? Does this Carnegie Rule extend to all courses -- for 15 hours on in-class work, students should be preparing outside of class for 37 hours weekly?

At the drop-in sessions people are getting stuck on the quantification of what a credit hour means for out-of-class student work. And it would be odd to say that the 4th credit comes to 2.5 hrs/wk out of class, but the other 3 credits don't. What do you propose?

The Policy and Program Subcommittee recommends applying existing legislation for the 4th credit only; 2.5 hours is the standard, and the Course Approvals Subcommittee can use its discretion in the application of this standard. It is not intended that a retroactive review of the fundamental course content or materials be triggered; that would seem to be the prerogative of the Quinquennial Review process.

4. Course Approval Process: How to facilitate Faculty Review? (We are swamped!)

Since so many applications for adding the 4th credit have been received, we will be swamped with work on Oct. 15. The Policy and Program Subcommittee recommends that the Course Approvals Subcommittee subdivide itself into several sections or working groups, recruiting additional membership from current General Education Council members as well as former members of the Gen Ed Task Force. This additional subcommittee membership should be confirmed by the GERICO Co-Chairs (John Jenkins, Carol Barr, and Martha Stassen).

5. Request from Resource Economics to convert an R2 from 3 to 4 Credits

Given the waiting line which has developed (see 4 above), it would seem more efficient and prudent to direct this request through the usual "increase in credits" route, rather than the GERICO process.