

# Minutes

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General Education Council  
Friday, September 19, 2008

## **Attendance:**

Bruce Baird, Gail Cruise, Ginger Etinde, David Fleming, Judy Goodenough, Amanda Walker Johnson, Gary Kamen, Kevin Klement, Randall Knoper, Mark Leckie, John Lenzi, Pamela Marsh-Williams, Ernest May, Dori McCracken, Razvan Sibii

## **Minutes:**

The minutes of May 16, 2008 were passed by the Council.

## **General Education Web Page:**

The Council reviewed the proposed Gened website, giving suggestions, comments and commendations for the structure and content of the webpage. John McCarthy, former chair of the Council, was commended on his input in the website's content.

## **Mass Transfer:**

Ernie May gave a brief explanation of the Mass Transfer policy, which has been proposed and accepted by the Board of Higher Education, but not yet adopted. He said that grads from community colleges with designated associate degrees would have the right to transfer up to 60 plus credits, and the general education requirements at the receiving institution would be satisfied. However, the Mass Transfer policy states that the receiving institution can add up to two courses, if the Gen Ed courses from the previous institution are deemed insufficient to meet the requirements of the receiving institution. The Council deliberated over the pros & cons of this policy, and over circumstances in which courses from the previous institution might be insufficient (or sufficient) to meet UMass Gen Ed requirements. The council also discussed the report prepared by Stephanie Chapko, senior associate director of transfer admissions, which questions the viability of some of the implementation plans and the viability of the timeline proposed for Mass Transfer. Randall asked that all comments, additions and/or corrections be submitted to either Ernie May, secretary of the Faculty Senate, or John McCarthy, chair of the Rules Committee. In the course of discussion about the transfer policy, it was noted that in another administrative meeting, Chancellor Holub said that he will look at the General Education goals and examine the ways that the campus delivers those goals. His desire is to see the Gened program at UMass become the best in the nation.

## **Reports:**

The Quinquennial Review report, along with a report on the summer Gen Ed fellows program, will be postponed until later.

## **Voting:**

Anthropology 306, "Visual Anthropology" (SBG) PASSED

## **Goals for Semester:**

The Council agreed that among its goals for the coming year ought to be some sort of support for teaching large lecture courses, possibly a workshop in the spring.

**Next Meeting:** Friday October 16, 2008 at 2:30 PM, in the Chancellor's Board Room, 370 Whitmore.