

## General Education Committee

### Minutes for October 17, 2001

Members present: Alison Feldt (Chair, FA), Steve Reece (HUM), John Day (IGS, Associate Dean), Naurine Lennox (SAS), Jill Dietz (NSM), Niels Knutson (Elected Student), Abdikadir Adan (non-voting student). Robert Entenmann, Chair of the History Department, was a visitor.

Chair Feldt called the meeting to order at 3:23 pm.

Minutes for the October 10, 2001 meeting were approved with slight revision for clarification.

It was announced that:

- Kristy Sybilrud learned from the registrar and communicated to the Chair of GEC that the software currently in use allows only 3 digit numbers for courses. It was strongly suggested that blocks of course numbers (e.g., 250-250) be used to designate “Topics” courses; discreet numbers can then be assigned according to the GE attribute(s) carried by the course.
- It was also learned from the registrar that the policy is that “a course is to be dropped if it has not been taught within the previous 4 years (2 catalog cycles). Exceptions have been made and a course allowed to remain, if it will be taught the very next academic year. CEPC is working on a policy that will allow a course that has not been taught for 4 years, but within the past 8, to be reinstated by means of an application to CEPC. The decision on whether the GE attributes would also be reinstated would, of course, be up to GEC to determine.”
- GE Proposal forms currently exist for an “existing course” and for a “new course” neither of which seems exactly appropriate for a “topics” course. The committee will consider in the future whether a different form should be created.
- The committee is awaiting an answer on whether WRI is assigned to a course or to a professor.

The committee:

- Approved **History 250: Topics in History: Russian History through Russian Literature GE #512** for HWC, upon reconsideration. Bob Entenmann spoke to the application of the HWC guidelines, as best he could, saying that the proposer Bob Nichols would have been able to explain it much better.
- Approved **So/Anth 116: Modern Elixirs: The Anthropology of Mood-Altering Substances GE #822** for HBS, upon reconsideration.
- Approved **Asian St. 126: Japanese Language in Society GE #825** for MCS-G. The Chair brought to the committee’s attention that, since submission of the proposal, the department expressed interest in offering this course as both a level one and a level two course, with a prerequisite for the level two and some assignments that would require

significant use of Japanese language. The Committee noted this intent, but it does not affect assignment of the GE attribute.

- Approved **Am. St. 208: American Frontiers: Myths and Histories GE #826** for MCS-D and HWC.
- Approved **Env. St. 275: Nature and American Landscapes GE #827** for ALS-L and HWC.
- Approved **Bio 249: Probing Life with Light: Investigative Cyber-Microscopy GE #823** for NSL-L.

Meeting adjourned at 4:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Naurine Lennox  
Secretary Pro Tempore