

**General Education Committee  
MINUTES  
October 30, 1996**

Present: Deborah Anderson, Julie Barer, Jo Beld, Laurel Carrington, Jim Cederberg, Dan Dressen, Vicki Harper, Bruce Marshall, Margaret Hayford O'Leary, Chad See, Kay Smith, Myron Solid, Charles Wilson

Assessment: Beld reported that students in Political Science 371: Political Research Methods have been working with the College's Assessment Task Force on setting up a preliminary study of student experience with and responses to the General Education Curriculum. They are considering both a mail survey and focus groups. The committee discussed several issues and specific questions that they would like the students' research to address. Additional ideas and suggestions can be sent to the student researchers and the members of the Assessment Task Force by e-mail to *assess*. Since this project is a class assignment, it will be completed by the end of the semester.

Minutes: Minutes for the October 23, 1996 meeting were approved as written.

Course review:

- #12 SpTh 240: Small Group Communication. *HBS: Approved.*
- #77 AmSt 100: Perspectives on American Culture. *HBS: Approved.*
- #607 T.A. 239: Cities and Economic Development in East Asia. *HBS, MCS-G: Approved.*
- #608 M.E. 261: The Meeting of East and West: Contrasts in Values. *EIN: Not Approved. WRI.*

Report on Pomona ORC Workshop: Beld reported on the workshop she and Larry Schnoor conducted October 25-26 to assist Pomona College in implementing their general education speaking-intensive course requirement. Pomona is similar to St. Olaf in its General Education goals. One major difference Pomona is dealing with for its ORC equivalent is that they do not have a Speech/Communications department. There is a lack of resources about teaching oral communication through other disciplines. She felt the workshop was useful both for Pomona and for St. Olaf.

Beld then encouraged committee members to try teaching some of the ORC components in their classes, without actually applying for ORC credit yet, as a way to gain some experience with it and strengthen their course proposals. She also suggested that they encourage their colleagues to do the same.

Next meeting: Wednesday, November 6, 1996

Recorder: Susan Canon