

EPC – Minutes
October 16, 2003

Attendance: Phil Kearns, Amy Firestone, Mike Finn, Evelyn Hall, Larry Leemis, Laurie McManus, Edward Pratt, Jenny Taylor, Debbie Eck (recorder)

Meeting called to order at 3:35 pm in the University Center James Room.

The following courses were voted on, approved, or tabled:

GOVT 498: Internship—New Course--Tabled

ANTH 426: Foodways and the Archaeological Record—Change Description—New Crosslisted

HIST 490/AMST 470—Approved

GERs criteria for the following:

GER 1---Mathematics and Quantitative Reasoning--Approved

GER 3---The Social Sciences--Approved

GER 5---Literature and History of the Arts--Approved

DIL: The Digital Information Literacy Project was discussed. The letter from the Dean of Undergraduate Studies announcing the test will be sent out on October 17. The tutorial will be available from October 17 and the exam can be taken beginning on Monday, October 20, 2003; the last day for the exam is November 14, 2003. Some of the major issues are: How many times can a student fail the test? Will there be a Saturday workshop for those who repeatedly fail? Can a one-credit course be offered, on a pattern similar to that now being offered by Interdisciplinary Studies? Lastly, who will pay for the workshop or class? If passing the DIL exam is going to be a College requirement, then resources need to be in place to take care of those students who fail. A subcommittee chaired by Jim Whittenburg will address these issues and work to expand and enhance the database of DIL questions.

The College Scholars Program was again addressed in regards to allowing these students flexibility in taking GERs. Some members argued that College requirements should be waived entirely for College Scholars. Others contended that we should not allow College Scholars special perks in regards to requirements, especially when we are so adamant in strictly enforcing the requirements. Another issue addressed concerned who would approve course substitutions for GERs. The departments? The co-directors of the Program? The Committee on Degrees? One member suggested that we run a trial of the system for two or three years, allowing for flexibility in the GERs; the co-directors would then report to EPC, addressing such issues as the number of College Scholars fulfilling the GERs by taking non-designated courses, the courses they took, etc. On an unrelated topic, some members thought that the Program should increase the size of the scholarship in order to attract the very best students.

New business that we did not address includes: the proposed Chinese Major, GER 2 Assessment Report, and self-scheduled final exams.

Meeting adjourned at 5:03pm