

General Education Requirements Committee
MINUTES
Tuesday, August 27, 2013
Faculty Senate Conference Room REND 301

Attendance:

Members: Angela Petit, Bob Tokle, Cathy Peppers, Jerry Lyons, Sandra Shropshire,
Andrew Holland, Tracy Payne, Tara Johnson
Ex-Officio: Sarah Mead, Lori Austill, David Blakeman
Admin. Assist: Catherine Read
Guest: Jim DiSanza for Academic Affairs Office

1. Introductions and Announcements

Members introduced themselves. Jim DiSanza was sitting in as the Academic Affairs representative for this meeting only. He is ISU's liaison on the State Board of Education's (SBOE's) General Education Reform committee. So far, not much has happened with that committee, but he will be the one to go to for more information later as the SBOE's plan takes shape.

Peppers informed members that all of GERC's minutes, bylaws changes and recommendations from last year were accepted by the Undergraduate Curriculum Council, (UCC) and have been approved by the Provost, and will be reflected in the 2014-15 undergraduate catalog.

2. Overview of GERC Committee

Peppers briefly described the last few years' efforts to redesign the General Education requirements, changing from 12 Goals to 9 Objectives with different criteria. This committee in its present form got underway last fall, inheriting a sketch of the new general education requirements, and has been defining and refining those requirements. Last year the committee was mostly focused on reviewing and approving new courses to fulfill the new general education Objectives. Existing general education courses were "grandfathered" in for this academic year only (2013-14), and now have to go through the formal review and approval process before they will be allowed to count as fulfilling their general education Objectives.

GERC began accepting and reviewing "grandfathered" course proposals last spring, and this ongoing work will comprise the bulk of the committee's workload this fall. New course proposals will continue to be accepted and reviewed as well. Proposals received by the deadline of September 10, 2013 will be reviewed and, if approved by all entities in the approval chain, will be listed in the 2014-15 catalog as fulfilling the General Education Objectives. Proposals not received by that deadline will be reviewed as time permits, but may not get through the approval process in time to be included in the 2014-15 catalog. GERC has until Tuesday, November 12, 2013 to submit its approval recommendations for the 2014-15 catalog. Any proposals approved after that date will not be included until the following year's catalog. Some discussion ensued about the deadlines, number of proposals expected, frequency of meetings needed to handle the expected workload.

Read gave a short demonstration on how to access and navigate the BengalWeb Group site online. All documents and information will be posted on the Group site so members will have everything they need in one place. She will help anyone who has trouble with the Group or has questions, wants copies of documents, or whatever request a member has that she can help with.

Peppers described the committee's paperwork flow, members' responsibilities as liaisons between the committee and the units they represent, and the respective responsibilities of the three committee officers. Peppers clarified that Read will provide office and administrative support to the officers and members, but the elected committee Secretary is responsible for taking minutes. Read will work closely with the chair to ensure the committee's work is forwarded properly through the process and to keep all parties apprised of the status of items of concern to them.

3. **Nomination and Election of Officers**

After some discussion, members nominated and elected the following Officers:

Chair: Cathy Peppers. **Vice Chair:** Tracy Payne. **Secretary:** Tara Johnson.

4. **Old Business**

- a. Returning committee members confirmed that PHIL 2210 Asian Philosophy had indeed been approved by GERC last fall as fulfilling Objective 9. The meeting minutes were unclear on whether the course had been approved, but members asserted it was. No further action was needed.
- b. Members reviewed the questions raised by Central Academic Advising and the Department of Languages and Literatures regarding whether a CLEP exam alone should fulfill Objective 4, or if an additional language course should be required to ensure adequate proficiency in speaking and writing, in which case Objective 9 would also be fulfilled. No determination was made, and the item was **tabled** for further discussion at the next meeting. Peppers will invite representatives from Advising and the Languages and Literatures department to address members' questions and give more insight into the problem.

5. **Many Proposals Still Needed by Sept. 10th Deadline – Grandfathered phase is over!**

Peppers will compose a reminder notice to send out to the relevant department chairs and program director about the proposal submission deadline. Members were asked to follow up with their respective constituents to help facilitate timely submissions. Members were also asked to review the Objective Rubrics and proposals received so far between now and next Tuesday's meeting. They were encouraged to use the BengalWeb Group's Message Board if they wished as a way of communicating their observations and questions to the rest of the group members before next meeting.

6. **Next Meetings and Time (Bylaws Issue)**

The next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, September 3, 2013 at 2:30 p.m. in the Faculty Senate Conference Room, REND 301. Although GERC's bylaws call for only one meeting per month (on the second Tuesday of the month), additional meetings are scheduled on an as-needed basis. This semester meetings were scheduled for almost every week, partly because of the anticipated heavier-than-normal workload, and partly to reserve the conference rooms. It is much easier to cancel an existing reservation than to find an available room once the semester is well under way. Adjustments to the meeting schedule will be made as the committee progresses through its workload.

Adjournment: 4:47 pm

Approved by GERC: September 10, 2013
Accepted by UCC: September 12, 2013
Accepted by Provost: October 8, 2013

General Education Requirements Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 3, 2013
Faculty Senate Conference Room

Attendance:

Members: Angela Petit, Cathy Peppers (Chair), Jerry Lyons, Sandra Shropshire,
Andrew Holland, Tracy Payne, Tara Johnson

Ex-Officio: Sarah Mead, Lori Austill, David Blakeman

Admin. Assist: Catherine Read

Guests: JoAnn Hertz, Central Academic Advising; Pamela Park, Languages &
Literatures

Bob Tokle and Julie Melton both had to resign from GERC because of increased responsibilities. Their respective College and Division will be contacted to replace them on the committee.

Acceptance of Minutes from meeting on Tuesday, August 27, 2013 tabled until next meeting to allow committee members adequate time to review.

Announcements:

1) Reminder letter sent to all Program Directors/Chairs for deadline of “grandfathered” course proposals by September 12. Committee members asked to follow up with their respective departments.

2) PHIL 2210 (Asian Phil) approved last year for Objective 9. Does not need to be resubmitted for any further action by the committee. (Make sure Curriculum Council has GERC approval on their list.)

3) Discussion: C.L.E.P. exams and foreign language credits for Objective 4 and 9
Current GERC recommendations: **No C.L.E.P. exam credits can be used to fulfill Objective 9.** CLEP exam credits can be used to partially fulfill Objective 4C (Foreign Languages column). To completely fulfill Objective 4, students **must** take another course from the 4A or 4B column.

New Business:

Motion: Repeat the language from page 83 of the 2013-2014 catalog as stated
*Students who gain the C.L.E.P. credits may **partially** fulfill Objective 4 of the General Education Requirements by taking one sequence course in the language in which they have gained the credits.

Vote: 4 approve, 3 oppose, 1 abstention

Proposals:

MC2210 (resubmit): Motion to approve

Vote: 8 approve

PHIL 1101, 1103: Motion to approve

Vote: 8 approve

CHEM 1100-1103: Motion to remand

Discussion: remand to better address use rubrics and proposal form

Vote: 8 approve motion to remand

MATH 1127, 1170, 1160, 1153, 1123, 1130, 2256, 2257: Motion to remand

Discussion: Math proposals 8-14 need to better address rubric, show real world application, give examples of evidence of how courses address application to real world problems

Vote: 8 approve motion to remand

Chem 1111, 1111L, 1112, 1112L: Motion to approve

Vote: 8 approve

Timeline guideline for remand: request 2 wk. (10 working days) turnaround for resubmit

Need to address: GERC Bylaws that call for meetings on the second Tuesday of the month and as needed; Define "as needed" according to committee workload and pace. Consider deleting meeting time from Bylaws to allow for more flexibility with scheduling meetings.

Next meeting: will make decision by Friday Sept 6th whether to meet on Sept 10th depending on how many proposals get in by 6th

Future Business/Hopper Topics:

CSED 2256 (Deaf Culture and Community) approved only 1 year (put in accidentally) GERC denied and is now resubmitting new proposal for 2014 catalog approval

D. Future Business on 9/3/13 agenda: Discussion can wait to finalize at future meeting

WS 2201 listed under 2 Objectives (6 and 9). GERC approved for Objective 9. Provost suggested remove from Obj 9 and put in Obj 6 due to national trend. Peppers to approach social science for their recommendation to see which Objective to put under. Call Provost and ask to keep in 9. If Provost wants to keep in 6 and not 9, department will have to submit proposal for Objective 6.

Motion to adjourn: 4:10 p.m.

Vote: 8 approve

Approved by GERC: September 24, 2013

Accepted by UCC: October 3, 2013

Accepted by Provost: November 22, 2013

General Education Requirements Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 10, 2013
Faculty Senate Conference Room

Attendance

Members Present: Angela Petit, Cathy Peppers (Chair), Tracy Payne (Vice Chair), Tara Johnson (Secretary), Jerry Lyons, Sandi Shropshire, Andrew Holland, Randy Norton, Members Absent: none
Ex-Officio: Sarah Mead, Lori Austill, Beverly Hewett (UCC), Catherine Read
Guest(s): none

Announcements:

Letter sent to all department/program chairs reminding them of the Sept. 10 deadline for 'grandfathered' course proposals.

Erika Kuhlman, Womens Studies director, responded to Pepper's inquiry; WS 2201 course fits best as an Objective 9 course, not Objective 6. Peppers will discuss this response with the Provost.

Math Dept. chair's response to GERC's remand of proposals. Discussion how to respond to the department chair's concerns. Peppers will talk to the chair to work out a solution.

Minutes:

Minutes from August 27, 2013 meeting **approved** (unanimous)

Minutes from September 3, 2013 meeting were **tabled** for corrections.

Continuing business:

Status update of proposals still to be submitted: proposals for HONS courses and CSED 2256 were revised and submitted. Most of the grandfathered course proposals received, except from RCET, PHYS, ANTH and one ECON. Still waiting for revised CHEM and MATH.

Review, discuss and vote on proposals received:

Objective 4A:

ENGL 1110 Approve (unanimous)

ENGL 1115 Approve (unanimous)

ENGL 1126 Approve (unanimous) – exemplary, post on website

ENGL 2257 Approve (unanimous)

ENGL 2258 Approve (unanimous)

Objective 4C:

LANG 1101 Approve (unanimous)

LANG 1102 Approve (unanimous)

LANG 2201 Approve (unanimous)

LANG 2202 Approve (unanimous) – exemplary, post on website

Commended, good justification. Suggest that foreign languages consider using 1102 as the course that fulfills the goal; 1101 is the prerequisite.

Objective 2:
COMM 1101 Approve (unanimous)

Objective 6:
ECON 1100 Approve (unanimous)

Objective 4:
ENGL 1102 Conditionally approved, pending revision of proposal to be more specific in describing spoken English component.

Tabled:
PSYC 1101
TGE 0257 (new course)
ENGL 221 new course proposed to replace AMST 2200

Next meeting: Tuesday, September 24, 2013

Adjourned: 4:00 p.m.

Approved by GERC: October 1, 2013
Accepted by UCC: October 10, 2013
Accepted by Provost: November 22, 2013

General Education Requirements Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 24, 2013
Faculty Senate Conference Room

Attendance

Members Present: Angela Petit, Cathy Peppers (Chair), Jerry Lyons, Sandi Shropshire, Andrew Holland, Tracy Payne (Vice Chair), Randy Norton, Tara Johnson (Secretary)
Members Absent: Margaret Johnson (Academic Affairs)
Ex-Officio: Sarah Mead, Lori Austill, Jim Bigelow (UCC), Catherine Read
Guest(s): none

Announcements:

CHEM revised proposals have been received but not posted
MATH working on revisions of remanded proposals. Revision deadline is October 4
Final-final deadline for proposals to be included in the 2014/2015 catalog is November 15
RCET proposal submitted and being processed

Business:

Minutes from September 3, 2013 meeting **approved** (unanimous)

WS 2201: Does not seem to fulfill the spirit of Objective 6; Definitely cannot be used as fulfilling both Objectives 6 and 9. Peppers will confer with the Provost and the Registrar to resolve the disparity.

ENGL 1102: English Department has concerns about fulfilling “spoken part” of Objective because taught online; Will it be grandfathered into 2014/2015 catalog? Discussion. The State Board of Education is working on new state-wide Gen Ed objectives that will ultimately supplant GERC’s rubrics, but that is at least a year away. GERC’s current learning objectives originated from the Gen Ed task force formed a couple of years ago that created the Objective framework this group was given to work with. The rubrics evolved from basic principles the committee refined last year to help them evaluate dissimilar proposals. This proposal remains **tabled** until October when the English Dept. Chair can come to address the committee.

Review, discuss and vote on proposals received:

Objective 6:

PSYC 1101 Approve—6 Oppose—1

Objective 4A:

TGE 0257 Remand (unanimous) Discussion: Course number and level does not match what is required by the State Board of Education for General Education although the proposal content is worthy of being a Gen Ed course. Send back to the College of Technology to address.

Objective 9:

Discussion regarding students studying the culture of their native countries/regions. Committee decided that all courses that fulfill Objective 9 should be comparative by nature anyway, so it shouldn't matter who takes which courses.

CMLT 2207, 2208, 2209 Approve (unanimous)

New course submitted for Objective 9:

PHIL 2250 Remand (unanimous) Discussion: Does not fit with Objective 9, but can resubmit for Objective 7

Objective 9:

CSED 2256 Not approved (unanimous) Discussion: Was included in 2013/2014 catalog without approval; denied based on lack of rigor; can address and resubmit for the 2014/2015 catalog.

Next meeting: Tuesday, October 1

Adjourned: 4:50 p.m.

Approved by GERC:	October 1, 2013
Accepted by UCC:	October 10, 2013
Accepted by Provost:	November 22, 2013

GERC Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 1, 2013
Faculty Senate Conference Room REND 301

Attendance

Members Present: Angela Petit, Cathy Peppers (Chair), Jerry Lyons, Tracy Payne (Vice Chair), Andrew Holland, Tara Johnson (Secretary), Sarah Partlow Lefevre
Members Excused: Randy Norton; Margaret Johnson (Academic Affairs)
Members Absent: Sandi Shropshire
Ex-Officio: Sarah Mead, Lori Austill, Jim Bigelow (UCC), Catherine Read
Guest(s): none

Motion: approve minutes from September 10, 2013 meeting

Approve (unanimous)

Motion: approve minutes from September 24, 2013 meeting with an amended **addition:** The committee discussed and were in agreement that students could take a course whose topic was from their home country to fulfill Objective 9, Cultural Diversity, of the General Education Requirements. The course would still fulfill the “spirit” of Objective 9.

Approve (unanimous)

Motion: submit a **recommendation to the Curriculum Council** to amend Objective 1 to remove just the spoken English item from the objective, as written English is the major criterion for Objective 1 and Objective 2 covers spoken English. This recommendation is to be forwarded to Curriculum Council via a memo.

Approve (unanimous)

Discussion: Perhaps we should consider a slightly different working process as a committee for review of proposals. Divide the proposals between small groups (2-3 people one of whom could be from the College/Division of the proposal) to review then present their findings to the committee as a whole before voting. Concerns were raised that it may give advocacy to the Department where the proposal was generated. Committee members felt it may slightly help with overall workload but may also cause ill-feelings among proposing departments and the committee.

Motion: approve ECON 2202 for Objective 6

Approve (6) **Oppose** (1)

Motion: approve DANC 2205 for Objective 4B

Approve (6) **Abstain** (1)

Motion: approve HIST 1101, 1102, 1111, and 1112 for Objective 6
Approve (unanimous)

Motion: approve HIST 2249 for Objective 9

Discussion: course is too broad without enough depth and breadth for cultural diversity to be the major focus. Primarily geography and cultural diversity is a different study than geography.

Approve (5) **Oppose** (1) **Abstain** (1)

Motion: ask Curriculum Council to address cross-listing of General Education Requirement courses where a course counts for an Objective but is cross-listed with another course that does not meet the Objective.

Discussion: HIST 2251 (proposed for Objective 9) is cross-listed with CMLT 2208 but not set up as a course equivalency. The term “cross-list” indicates separate entities in the catalog but is given at the same place and time. Will decide on HIST 2251 on its own merits and ask UCC to address cross-listing.

Approve (unanimous)

Motion: approve HIST 2251 for Objective 9

Approve (unanimous)

Motion: approve HIST 2252, 2254, and 2255 for Objective 9

Discussion: These courses may not meet the actual diversity portion of the objective. Some concerns about the way Objective 9 is written.

Approve (5) **Abstain** (2)

Discussion: HIST 1118 is proposed for Objective 7 (Critical Thinking) rather than Objective 6. The content and catalog description don't match up with Objective 7. Peppers will contact the Chair of the History Department to get more information. This proposal is **tabled** until more information is obtained about which Objective the course is being proposed for.

Next meeting is scheduled for October 8, 2013 at 2:30 p.m.

Approved by GERC:	October 8, 2013
Accepted by UCC:	October 10, 2013
Accepted by Provost:	November 22, 2013

GERC Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 8, 2013
Faculty Senate Conference Room REND 301

Attendance

Members Present: Angela Petit, Sarah Partlow Lefevre, Cathy Peppers (Chair), Jerry Lyons, Sandi Shropshire, Andrew Holland, Tracy Payne (Vice Chair), Randy Norton, Tara Johnson (Secretary),
Members Excused: Margaret Johnson (Academic Affairs)
Ex-Officio: Sarah Mead, Lori Austill, Jim Bigelow (UCC), Catherine Read
Guest(s): none

Motion: approve minutes from October 1, 2013 meeting
Approve: (7) **Abstain:** (2)

Announcement: Margaret Johnson (Ex Officio member) is unable to regularly attend GERC meetings as she has conflicting meetings and other commitments on Tuesday p.m. We will continue to extend an open invitation to her.

Discussion: TGE courses considered Gen. Ed. Courses for the College of Technology students. They may not fully transfer for AAS degrees; BSU and U of I do not accept TGE credits as academic credits. Sarah read the SBOE policy regarding College of Tech. courses and still unclear. Salina Grace and Teena Rhoads may be able to help clarify however, the GERC committee can only decide if courses meet the Gen. Ed. Objective guidelines.

Motion: Approve TGE0257 based on its own merits pending the resolution of transferability of TGE 0--- courses.

Discussion: Would tabling of approval of TGE 0--- course help expedite the transferability decisions rather than approval/no approval?

Approve: (1) **Oppose:** (7) **Abstain:** (1) **Motion failed.**

Motion: Table TGE 0257 and all TGE 0--- courses until transferability is specified.

Approve: (8) **Abstain:** (1) TGE 0257 was **tabled.**

Discussion: UCC approved our recommendation to remove spoken English from Objective 1. Once UCC's minutes are approved, then it can be taken out of the catalog. **ENG 1102 does not have to be approved again** by GERC since it was already approved conditionally.

Motion: Approve HE 2200 for Objective 6

Discussion: Still too individualistic. Focus is on individuals rather than group.

Approve: (2) **Oppose:** (7)

HE 2200 **not approved.**

Motion: Approve GEOL 1100, 1100L, 1101, 1101L, 1110 for Objective 5
Approve: (unanimous) Committee noted these proposals were well written.

Motion: Approve BIOL 1100, 1100L, 1101, 1101L for Objective 5
Approve: (unanimous)

Motion: Approve PHYS 1152, 1153 for Objective 5
Approve: (8) **Abstain:** (1)

Motion: Approve PHYS 1100, 1101, 1101L for Objective 5
Approve: (6) **Abstain:** (2)

Motion: Postpone decisions on PHYS 1111, 1112, 1113, 1114, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214
Approve: (unanimous). These eight PHYS proposals **postponed**.

Next GERC meeting: 10-22-2013

Approved by GERC: October 29, 2013
Accepted by UCC: October 31, 2013
Accepted by Provost:

GERC Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 22, 2013
Faculty Senate Conference Room REND 301

Attendance

Members Present: Angela Petit, Sarah Partlow Lefevre, Cathy Peppers (Chair), Jerry Lyons, Sandi Shropshire, Andrew Holland, Tracy Payne (Vice Chair), Randy Norton, Tara Johnson (Secretary),
Members Absent: Margaret Johnson (Academic Affairs), Lori Austill
Ex-Officio: Sarah Mead, Jim Bigelow (UCC), Catherine Read
Guest(s): none

Motion: Remand PHYS 1111, 1112, 1113, 1114, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214 (Objective 5)

Discussion: Real world connection. Turnaround time for resubmitting revised proposals requires grandfathering these courses for the 2014-2015 catalog. Revised proposals will be due March 1, 2014.

Approve: (8) Abstain: (1)

PHYS courses remanded for revision by Mar 1st, but grandfathered for 1 year

Motion: Approve CHEM 1100, 1100L (revised) for Objective 5

Approve: (unanimous)

Motion: Approve CHEM 1101 for Objective 5

Approve: (8) Abstain: (1) (Reconsidered later in the meeting, see below)

Motion: Not to approve CHEM 1103 for Objective 5

Discussion: No evidence of rigor or teaching of the scientific method; concerns about undergraduate students teaching this course, adequate evaluation by undergraduate students, and monitoring by the CHEM Department of the undergraduate students teaching

Approve: (7) Abstain: (2) CHEM 1103 not approved.

Motion: Approve CHEM 1102 for Objective 5

No Second

Motion Failed

Motion: Reconsider Approval of CHEM 1101 for Objective 5

Discussion: Does not show evidence of the scientific method or any co-requisite of a lab. Concerns whether adequate rigor.

Approve: (1) Oppose: (4) Abstain: (4)

Motion did not have a quorum, failed.

Motion: Reject CHEM 1101 for Objective 5

Approve: (4) Oppose: (2) Abstain: (1) CHEM 1101 rejected.

Motion: Approve CHEM 1102 for Objective 5

Approve: (5) Oppose: (3) Abstain: (1)

Motion: Grandfather CHEM 1103 for the 2014-2015 catalog

Approve: (7) Oppose: (2) CHEM 1103 grandfathered for 1 year

Motion: Approve EDUC 1110 for Objective 4A

Discussion: Does it fit with Objective 4A or is it more suited to Objective 6? Decided on Objective 4A.

Approve: (7) Abstain: (2)

Motion: Approve HIST 1120 for Objective 7

Discussion: Assessment of student outcomes is slightly weak

Approve: (unanimous)

Motion: Approve RCET 0372 for Objective 3

Discussion: GERC has been instructed by UCC to address 0 numbered courses based on merit alone

Approve: (6) Abstain: (3)

Motion: Approve SOC 1101 for Objective 6

Approve: (unanimous)

Motion: Approve SOC 1102 for Objective 6

Discussion: Somewhat unclear as to how it differs from SOC 1101, although it definitely meets the Objective.

Approve: (8) Oppose: (1)

Meeting Adjourned

Next Meeting: October 29, 2013

Approved by GERC: October 29, 2013

Accepted by UCC: October 31, 2013

Accepted by Provost:

GERC Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 29, 2013
Faculty Senate Conference Room REND 301

Attendance

Members Present: Angela Petit, Sarah Partlow Lefevre, Cathy Peppers (Chair), Jerry Lyons, Sandi Shropshire, Andrew Holland, Tracy Payne (Vice Chair), Randy Norton, Tara Johnson (Secretary),
Members Absent: Margaret Johnson (Academic Affairs), Lori Austill
Ex-Officio: Sarah Mead, Jim Bigelow (UCC), Catherine Read
Guest(s): none

Motion: Reject ME 1165 for Objective 7

Discussion: Subject matter not broad enough to teach critical thinking skills that transfer across disciplines. Most problems have one answer, are too prescriptive, and not ambiguous enough. Course teaches different approaches to a problem to come up with the right answer, versus comparing the various approaches and examining the pros and cons of each. Students learn MatLab program, which has a lot of math functions built in; general computing program course makes students write code from scratch. Consensus was that this course does not fit the goals of the Objective.

Approve: (unanimous) ME 1165 rejected, not approved.

Motion: Reject FIN 1115 (revised) for Objective 8

Discussion: This Objective is similar to Critical Thinking in that it assumes a messy universe that require analysis and thinking skills to make sense of it. Some concern that this course may be too specific to personal finance and not broad enough to encompass the rest of the financial universe as intended by the Objective.

Approve: (3) Against: (5) Abstain: (0) Motion failed.

Motion: Approve FIN 1115 (revised) for Objective 8

Approve: (5) Against: (3) Abstain: (0) FIN 1115 approved.

Motion: Approve HIST 1118 for Objective 7

Discussion: Question was whether this course taught a general model that extends beyond just history. Consensus was that though a close call, this course is similar to HIST 1120 which was approved.

Approve: (unanimous) HIST 1118 approved.

Motion: Approve IS 2203 for Objective 6

Approve: (unanimous) IS 2203 approved.

Motion: Approve IS 2202 for Objective 9

Approve: (7) Against: (1) Abstain: (0) IS 2202 approved.

Motion: Approve THEA 2251 for Objective 7

Discussion: Concern about the absence of dialectic, though could look at it as a dialectic between the actor and the character/script. Although the course focuses on one method of acting, critical evaluation of that method and of peers' performances meets the objective.

Approve: (unanimous) THEA 2251 approved.

Motion: Approve TGE 0257 for Objective 4

Reconsider this course in light of SBOE's draft of Humanities Objective.

Discussion: Committee received go-ahead from administration to consider TGE course proposals based on their individual merit and disregard the larger issues of transferability of credit. It was clarified that only College of Tech students can take the course; other students are blocked from enrolling because of funding issues. Concern expressed about the rigor of the course and the qualifications of the instructor(s). This course is being proposed to address ABET and other accreditation standards, which require more ethics courses.

Approve: (5) Abstain: (3) TGE 0257 approved.

Motion: Remand ANTH 2239 for Objective 9

Discussion: No textbooks listed, proposal too cursory and vague to evaluate properly. Does not address the Objective rubrics.

Approve: (unanimous) ANTH 2239 remanded.

Motion: Grandfather ANTH 2239 (Objective 9) for one more year, resubmit proposal by March 1st.

Approve: (unanimous) ANTH 2239 grandfathered for one year.

Motion: Remand and grandfather ANTH 1100 (Objective 6) for one more year, resubmit proposal by March 1st.

Approve: (unanimous) ANTH 1100 remanded, but grandfathered for one year.

Motion: Remand and grandfather ANTH 2237 and ANTH 2238 (Objective 9) for one more year, resubmit proposal by March 1st.

Discussion: Proposals vague, no textbooks listed. Question whether proposals adequately address the Objective rubrics. Do not identify which cultural groups are being compared. Course can be repeated up to 6 credits, but not clear how the different sections would vary from each other. No specific examples given to clarify unfamiliar terms such as "indigenous science" and why the course emphasizes it.

Approve: (unanimous)
grandfathered for one year.

ANTH 2237 and ANTH 2238 remanded, but

Motion: Postpone discussion of ECON 2201 (Objective 6) until next meeting.

Approve: (unanimous) **ECON 2201 discussion postponed.**

Motion: Approve Minutes for October 8, 2013 and October 22, 2013, with a clarification to CHEM 1101.

Approve: (unanimous) **Minutes for October 8 and October 22 approved.**

Meeting Adjourned.

Next Meeting: November 5, 2013

Approved by GERC:	January 28, 2014
Accepted by UCC:	February 6, 2014
Accepted by Provost:	February 14, 2014

GERC Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 5, 2013
Faculty Senate Conference Room REND 301

Attendance

Members Present: Angela Petit, Cathy Peppers (Chair), Jerry Lyons, Sandi Shropshire, Andrew Holland, Raz Stowe (for Tracy Payne), Randy Norton
Members Excused: Sarah Partlow Lefevre, Tracy Payne, Tara Johnson (Secretary)
Ex-Officio: Margaret Johnson (Academic Affairs), Lori Austill, Sarah Mead, Jim Bigelow (UCC), Catherine Read (Admin. Assistant)
Guest(s): none

Motion: Approve MATH 1123 for Objective 3

Discussion: Course is designed for students who will not take many math courses.

Approve: (unanimous) MATH 1123 approved.

Motion: Reject, but grandfather MATH 1127 for Objective 3 for one more year, requiring a revised proposal be submitted by March 1, 2014.

Discussion: Course focuses on non-math students who struggle with math concepts. Proposal only addressed the theory component of the rubric, not the real world problems component. How narrow an interpretation of real world problems to take? Consensus was to reject for failure to address real world problems.

Approve: (4) Opposed: (1) Abstain: (1) MATH 1127 rejected but grandfathered for one more year. A new proposal due March 1st.

Motion: Approve MATH 1130 for Objective 3

Discussion: The assessment section was strong.

Approve: (5) Abstain: (1) MATH 1130 approved.

Motion: Approve MATH 1153 for Objective 3

Discussion: The proposal addressed all the rubric questions, sample real world problems included.

Approve: (5) Abstain: (1) MATH 1153 approved.

Motion: Approve both MATH 1160 and MATH 1170 for Objective 3

Discussion: The proposal for MATH 1160 did address all the real world applications; the one for MATH 1170 was more sketchy and abstract but does discuss applications. Exams do show real applications.

Approve: (5) Abstain: (1) MATH 1160 and MATH 1170 approved.

Motion: Conditionally approve MATH 2256/2257 for Objective 3, but only for Elementary Education majors.

Discussion: The courses promote mathematical literacy. Questions about rigor; these courses teach lower level of math, does it really meet college level of math? Course is designed to teach math teachers. Has not been a Gen Ed course very long, was implemented to try to cut down required credits for Elementary Ed majors. Course is focused on teaching mastery of numbers and mathematical concepts, thinking in different ways.

Approve: (unanimous) MATH 2256/2257 approved only for Elementary Education majors.

Motion: Approve ECON 2201 for Objective 6

Discussion: Proposal addressed the rubrics and learning outcomes.

Approve: (unanimous) ECON 2201 approved.

Motion: Approve ENGL 2210 for Objective 9

Discussion: New course to replace AMST 2200, since American Studies was eliminated. Course description was written to fulfill Objective 9, rather than Objective 6 or Objective 4. Proposal addresses comparative aspect, but not the clashing of cultures and interaction between and among cultures and mainstream.

Approve: (unanimous) ENGL 2210 approved.

Motion: Approve HONS 1101 for Objective 1

Discussion: This course works as a unit with HONS 1102, students take them in a cluster. HONS 1101 is not only writing intensive, it puts the readings into an historical context. Uses rhetorical strategies, persuasion, argument.

Approve: (unanimous) HONS 1101 approved.

Motion: Remand, but grandfather HONS 1102 for Objective 4 for one more year. **Require a revised proposal** be submitted by March 1st.

Discussion: This proposal was not as well written as HONS 1101 proposal; it is sketchier. Remand for clarification, copy-editing, address which part of Objective 4 this meets, and flesh out the proposal.

Approve: (unanimous) HONS 1102 remanded, but grandfathered for one year.

Meeting Adjourned.

Next Meeting: November 12, 2013

Approved by GERC: January 28, 2014

Accepted by UCC: February 6, 2014

Accepted by Provost: February 14, 2014

GERC Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 12, 2013
Faculty Senate Conference Room REND 301

Attendance

Members Present: Sarah Partlow Lefevre, Angela Petit, Cathy Peppers (Chair), Jerry Lyons, Sandi Shropshire, Andrew Holland, Tracy Payne, Randy Norton, Tara Johnson (Secretary)

Members Excused: Margaret Johnson (Academic Affairs)

Ex-Officio: Lori Austill, Sarah Mead, Jim Bigelow (UCC), Catherine Read (Admin. Assistant)

Guest(s): Laura Woodworth-Ney

Motion: Approve ECON 1100 as another exemplary proposal to post on the GERC website under Objective 6.

Approve: (6) Abstain: (3)

Rejected Gen Ed Proposals

Provost Woodworth-Ney said Academic Affairs Office supports this process and is referring department and college complaints to UCC reps. It's a faculty process, to be handled at faculty level as much as possible. Academic Affairs may come back to GERC for clarification on some points, and what their intent was.

Discussion. Members reviewed their notes and made the following observations about the rejected proposals:

CS 2256 – not rigorous enough, everything was “define”

CHEM 1101 – not connected with a lab course, lecture course does not address scientific method.

HE 2200 – too specific to the individual, not general enough to cover broader social concerns.

ME 1165 – improved the description on how it addressed the learning outcomes, doesn't solve for open-ended or ambiguous problems, only one answer, though many routes to get there. CS 1181 was more open-ended. Also concern about whether the critical thinking skills were broad enough to carry across multiple disciplines.

PHIL 2250 – course seemed to fit more with Objective 7, rather than Objective 9. Proposal not focused enough on cultural diversity. If the Department wants revise and resubmit, they will need to clarify the focus for either Objective 7 or Objective 9.

Motion: Approve this list with amendments and attachments and forward it to UCC.

Approve: (unanimous)

Minutes will be approved via email. No reason to meet again this semester. This list will be forwarded to UCC, then to Provost's Office. Deans will be asked for advice, input.

Next semester: revisit meeting schedule. Plan for Tues afternoon meetings, but not so many. No later than 4 pm adjourn time because Cathy Peppers will be teaching night class in Idaho Falls. Items to work on next semester:

1. Discuss designation of courses and categories within Objective 4
2. What things might we want posted on GERC's website, beyond what is currently there?
3. Revisit Bylaws – consider deleting meeting time to leave it more flexible (currently listed as 3-5 pm the second Tuesday of each month.
4. Discuss requiring more info about how departments will assess course and learning outcomes, include syllabus and exam (as supplements, not in lieu of narrative description).
5. Discuss refining Objectives and Rubrics, e.g. Obj 6 – intro HIST courses did not address final part of the rubric.

Tracy Payne is stepping off GERC as of today. GERC needs to elect a new Vice Chair. CoSE knows it needs to replace Tracy; Assoc. Dean will work on that.

Meeting Adjourned: 3:52 p.m.

Approved by GERC: February 11, 2014

Accepted by UCC:

Accepted by Provost:

GERC Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 28, 2014
Faculty Senate Conference Room REND 301

Attendance

Members Present: Cathy Peppers, Jerry Lyons, Erika Kuhlman, Andrew Holland, Tara Johnson, Randy Norton, Lori Austill, Jenny Semenza (sitting in for Sandra Shropshire), Jim Skidmore (replacing Angela Petit),
Members Absent: None
Ex-Officio: Margaret Johnson (Academic Affairs), Sarah Mead, Catherine Read, Jim Bigelow (UCC)
Guest: Jim DiSanza, ISU Rep. to SBOE Gen. Ed. Task Force

Motion to approve minutes from October 29 and November 5, 2013:
Approve (4) Abstain (4)

Call for nominations for Vice-Chair

Motion to elect Andrew Holland as Vice-Chair:
Approve (7) Abstain (1)

Jim DiSanza presented an overview of the SBOE's recommended General Education framework to be adopted by institutions across the state. Goal is to bring all state institutions' general education courses in line with the 6 competency guidelines/rubrics.
Timeline for the 6 competency areas is the Fall 2015-2016 catalog.

The committee asked for a general Town Hall Q&A meeting to bring all faculty from various departments/programs up to date on SBOE Gen. Ed. Requirements.

ISU Gen. Ed. Objectives 7, 8, and 9 will not change as they are not included in the 6 competency guidelines/rubrics put forth by the SBOE.

For the next GERC meeting, Cathy Peppers asked committee members to identify/outline an efficient way to call for and review proposals according to the new guidelines.

Next meeting: Tuesday, February 11

Meeting adjourned: 4:00

Approved by GERC: February 11, 2014
Accepted by UCC:
Accepted by Provost:

GERC Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 11, 2014
Faculty Senate Conference Room REND 301

Attendance:

Members Present: Erika Kuhlman, Cathy Peppers (Chair), Jerry Lyons, Sandi Shropshire, Andrew Holland, Randy Norton, Tara Johnson
Members Excused: Jim Skidmore
Ex-Officio: Margaret Johnson (Academic Affairs), Lori Austill, Sarah Mead, Jim Bigelow (UCC), Catherine Read (Admin. Assistant)
Guests: None

Motion to Approve Minutes from:

November 12, 2013
January 28, 2014
Approved: (unanimous)

Announcements from Chair:

Letter emailed to all deans, chairs and program directors (copied to GERC):
Town Hall meeting at end of February to discuss and address questions re:
SBOE Competency Guidelines and policy.

Continuing Business:

GERC's task is two parts:

- A. How to audit current ISU Gen. Ed. Objectives/Rubrics in light of SBOE task force Competency Guidelines
 - 1) Highlight differences in Objectives/Rubrics 1-6
 - a. Break into subcommittees by area of expertise
 - 2) With little or no differences in rubrics—no need to re-review
 - a. Courses that fit are approved
 - 3) Identify courses to re-review depending on points of differences
 - a. Check remanded proposals (Math 1127, Physics, etc.)
- B. How to manage course proposal/revision process
 - 1) Review proposals only looking at points of differences
 - 2) Notify selected departments of course proposal differences

Post new GERC rubrics on GERC website **once approved by SBOE in April**
Communicate audit findings to departments

Subcommittee Assignments:

Written and Oral Communication:

Sandi Shropshire
Lori Austin

Math:

Randy Norton

Jim Wolper??
Humanities/Fine Arts:
Jim Skidmore
Cathy Peppers
Sciences:
Andy Holland
Tara Johnson
Social/Behavioral Sciences (also address overlap w/ Obj. 9):
Erika Kuhlman
Jerry Lyons

Next Meetings:

February 25, 2014
Meet in subcommittees

March 11, 2014
Meet as a group with sub-committee reports due

Adjourn: 4:00 pm

Approved by GERC: February 25, 2014
Accepted by UCC: February 27, 2014
Accepted by Provost: March 17, 2014

General Education Requirements Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 25, 2014
Faculty Senate Conference Room REND 301

Attendance:

Members Present: Leonid Hanin (replacing Tracy Payne), Andrew Holland (Vice Chair), Tara Johnson (Secretary), Erika Kuhlman, Cathy Peppers (Chair), Sandi Shropshire, Jim Skidmore
Excused: Jerry Lyons, Randy Norton; Margaret Johnson (Academic Affairs), Sarah Mead,
Ex-Officio: Lori Austill, Jim Bigelow (UCC), Catherine Read (Admin. Assistant)
Guests: None

1. **Motion:** Accept Minutes from Tuesday, February 11, 2014 meeting.
Accept (unanimous)

2. Members met in subgroup pairs to:

- a) Compare the draft competency guidelines & rubrics from the SBOE task forces to our current Objective 1-6 descriptions and GERC rubrics to
- b) Identify any points of difference and
- c) Identify what courses might be affected by those differences (if any).

Subgroup Assignments:

Objectives 1 (Written) & 2 (Oral) Communications: Lori Austill and Sandi Shropshire
Objective 3 (Mathematics): Leonid Hanin
Objective 4 (Humanities/Arts): Jim Skidmore and Cathy Peppers
Objective 5 (Sciences): Andy Holland and Tara Johnson, with Leonid Hanin sitting in
Objective 6 (Social Sciences): Erika Kuhlman, with Jerry Lyon's notes

Next meeting: Tuesday, March 11, 2014 (collect the findings of today's work and figure out next steps)

Approved by GERC: March 11, 2014
Accepted by UCC: March 13, 2014
Accepted by Provost: March 27, 2014

General Education Requirements Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 11, 2014
Faculty Senate Conference Room REND 301

Attendance:

Members Present: Leonid Hanin (replacing Tracy Payne), Andrew Holland (Vice Chair), Tara Johnson (Secretary), Erika Kuhlman, Jerry Lyons, Randy Norton, Cathy Peppers (Chair), Sandi Shropshire, Jim Skidmore

Ex-Officio: Lori Austill, Jim Bigelow (UCC), Margaret Johnson (Academic Affairs), Sarah Mead, Catherine Read (Admin. Assistant)

Guests: None

Motion: Approve Minutes from Tuesday, February 25, 2014 meeting.
Approve (unanimous)

Revised proposals for Objective 9 courses from Anthropology Department should be ready for this committee to consider after Spring Break.

Discussion: Objective 1— Written Communication

SBOE guidelines require the use of writing and rhetorical strategies in its objectives 2 and 4; GERC's Objective 1 does not include anything about strategies. ENGL 1102 does not meet SBOE objective 5 about using evidence-based reasoning to address readers' biases and assumptions. A new proposal will be required. HONS 1101 proposal meets all the SBOE objectives.

Discussion: Objective 2—Oral Communication

SBOE uses the phrase "information resources", which is missing from GERC's rubric. COMM 1101 proposal does not specifically address SBOE objective 6 to recognize and critically evaluate reasoning, evidence and communication strategies. However, only 5 of the 6 objectives have to be met, so COMM 1101 is fine and does not need further work or review. Cathy will let the department know in case they wish to revise the proposal to meet SBOE Objective 6.

College of Technology requests ENGL 1101 be included as a Gen Ed course so that their students can get their Associate of Applied Science degree. Gen Ed courses are in addition to their regular degree courses. All other institutions in Idaho accept ENGL 1101 as a Gen Ed for AAS students. Margaret clarified there are different requirements for AAS vs. Bachelor's degrees; ENGL 1102 can still be required for Bachelor degrees. GERC agreed to allow ENGL 1101 as a Gen Ed to accommodate AAS degree students, as long as ENGL 1102 would still be required to complete Objective 1 if the student transferred to a Bachelor degree program.

College of Technology will submit a proposal for GERC's consideration in April.

Discussion: Objective 3—Mathematics

What Math courses should be included in General Education Requirements in the first place?

What constitutes a Gen. Ed. course in Math?

MATH 1153 and 1127 don't meet SBOE's 4 objectives. They minimally meet a couple of them.

MGT 2216 (approved as Gen. Ed. for Math by the committee) is also a concern

GERC needs to re-evaluate Math 1153, 1127, and MGT 2216

Recommendation to contact other Idaho institutions to see how they are interpreting the SBOE's objectives and see what is included for fulfilling Gen. Eds., particularly with Math.

Margaret will check with the Provost about forwarding a recommendation to the SBOE to change the Math Competency Guidelines to require that only 3 of the 4 objectives be met.

Courses that have been approved by GERC, but Catherine does not have in order to post are:

Tara will check into: CSED 1151, 1152 for Objective 4
NTD 2239 for Objective 5

Randy will check into: TGE 0135

Jim will check into: ANTH 1107
PHIL 2201

Erika will check into: POLS 2202
SOC 2248

Cathy will check into: MGT 2216

Next meeting March 18, 2014

Approved by GERC: March 18, 2014

Accepted by UCC: April 17, 2014

Accepted by Provost: May 6, 2014

General Education Requirements Committee **Meeting Minutes**
Tuesday, March 18, 2014
Room 208, BA Building

Attendance:

Members Present: Leonid Hanin (replacing Tracy Payne), Andrew Holland (Vice Chair), Tara Johnson (Secretary), Jerry Lyons, Randy Norton, Cathy Peppers (Chair), Sandi Shropshire, Jim Skidmore
Ex-Officio: Lori Austill, Jim Bigelow (UCC), Margaret Johnson (Academic Affairs), Sarah Mead
Excused: Erika Kuhlman, Catherine Read (Admin. Assistant)
Guests: None

Motion: Accept Minutes from Tuesday, March 11, 2014 meeting.
Accept with one minor edit (unanimous)

Discussion:

Objective 4

The Committee's previously outlined criteria and those of the SBOE were pretty much in line with each other. The SBOE requires Objective 4 meet 5 of their 7 objectives. All courses under Objective 4 **EXCEPT** the foreign languages meet at least 5 of the SBOE's criteria. Foreign languages meet 4 of 7 (#s 2, 3, 4, 7). It's unlikely they meet 5 or 6 and only meet the last part of 1.

Jim will take this up with the Foreign Languages Department and ask them for an abbreviated explanation on how either 5, 6 or both of SBOE's criteria will be met.

Questions regarding specific courses under Objective 4:

HON 1102: Will it count as a course in Humanities section or in Language section or both?

HON 1102 was grandfathered with need for revisions for next academic catalog. Will need to revise according to SBOE objectives.

EDUC 1110: Why does it fit in Objective 4? The relevant field is listed as history that is usually under Social Sciences (Objective 6). Will it meet 5 of the 7 criteria under Objective 4?

Likely need to request a revision if Department still wishes EDUC 1110 to be considered under Objective 4 or look to see if fits Objective 6 SBOE criteria.

Objective 5

All Biology, Chemistry (with exceptions listed below) and Geology courses with labs meet the SBOE's criteria/objectives (1, 2, 3, 4, 5). SBOE criteria/objective 3 (hypothesis testing) poses a problem to any course without a lab.

Physics proposals need clarification on how they specifically meet the SBOE's criteria/objectives for all approved, remanded and grandfathered courses.

Andy will share this with the Physics Department.

CHEM 1101: does not meet SBOE's criteria/objectives due to no lab and no communication aspect of the course.

CHEM 1103: (the lab to 1102) does not meet criteria/objectives due to areas previously identified by the Committee however, CHEM 1102 was approved and does meet the criteria/objectives.

Objective 6

Out of 12 courses under this objective, 7 meet the SBOE's criteria/objectives and 5 did not.

Erika will share this with the History Department because it is unclear whether the courses meet the required 4 of 5 criteria/objectives.

HIST 1101, 1102, 1111, and 1112 (Jerry felt 1112 did not; Erika felt 1112 did)

ANTH 1100: have met less than 4 of the criteria/objectives (#4 is definitely not met). It appears there is no focus on diversity.

These courses will likely need new proposals.

Objective 3

MATH 1123: minimally meets #s 2, 3, 4 of the SBOE's criteria/objectives. A slight rewrite should get this course to meet #1.

MATH 1127: Meets #1 but not any of the other criteria/objectives. A rewrite could get it to meet others.

MATH 1153: Has a very narrow scope to be considered a General Education course. May be able to rewrite to make it fit.

MGT 2216: Way too narrow of a scope to fit as a Gen. Ed requirement course under Objective 3.

Next meeting: April 8, 2014

Approved by GERC:	April 8, 2014
Accepted by UCC:	April 17, 2014
Accepted by Provost:	May 6, 2014

General Education Requirements Committee **Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, April 8, 2014

Faculty Senate Conference Room REND 301

Attendance

Members Present: Jim Skidmore, Erika Kuhlman, Cathy Peppers, Jerry Lyons, Sandi Shropshire, Andy Holland, Leonid Hanin, Randy Norton, Tara Johnson

Excused: Sara Mead

Ex-Officio: Margaret Johnson, Lori Austill, Jim Bigelow

Staff: Catherine Read

Guests: None

Motion: Approve minutes for March 18, 2014.

Approve: with one abstention

Discussion

Status of GERC Audit List: All courses vetted by committee members. Objective 3 courses still undergoing discussion by Math Department. Members confirmed that NTD 2239 met the new rubrics for Objective 5.

Deadline for submission of Gen Ed proposals to GERC for Fall 2014 (in order to go to Curriculum Council) is September 19, 2014.

Motion: Approve GERC Audit List

Approve: Unanimous

Discussion

Johnson reported she informed SBOE of this council's concerns about some of the new competency guidelines, especially for Objective 3 Math and the ambiguity about ENGL 1101 and ENGL 1102 in meeting Objective 1 requirement of 3 or 6 credits. SBOE is willing to consider proposed changes if GERC wants to submit them before the 2nd reading at next week's SBOE meeting. ISU has split Objective 4 into separate categories between Humanities, Fine Arts and Language; that is fine with SBOE as long as the credit requirements for each category are met. SBOE wants to eliminate remedial courses altogether by Fall 2015. Remedial course work will be incorporated into regular English and Math courses with an extra hour per week or so to provide extra instruction for those students who may need it.

Motion: Approve suggested changes to Objective 1: Written Communication

Approved (7 for, 1 against, 1 abstention)

Motion: Approve proposed changes to Objective 5: Sciences

Approved (unanimous)

Motion: Approve 'Maximum' proposed changes to Objective 3: Math

Motion **failed:** via electronic vote (2 Yes, 7 No, 0 Abstentions). Proposal was **rejected**.

Motion: Approve 'Minimal' proposed changes to Objective 3: Math

Approved via electronic vote (8 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstention)

Next meeting 4/22/14

Approved as amended by GERC: May 12, 2014 via email vote

Accepted by UCC: May 14, 2014 via email

Accepted by Provost: July 2, 2014

APPENDICES

Appendix 1. GERC's Gen Ed course audit findings:

General Education Course Audit per new SBOE competency guidelines

Approved by GERC: April 8, 2014

Based on our comparison of ISU's current General Education Objectives with the new statewide ones generated by the SBOE task forces, and assuming the new competency guidelines are approved by the SBOE in April with no substantive changes, we have found the following courses will need to have revised proposals and/or addenda submitted for approval by GERC. GERC will request revised proposals be submitted by Friday, September 19, 2014.

Objective 1, Written Communication:

ENGL 1102: a revised proposal including how the course meets learning objective 5, "address readers' biases and assumptions with well-developed, evidence-based reasoning."

Objective 2, Oral Communication

COMM 1101: GERC members find that this course proposal did not explicitly address learning objective 6, "effectively recognize and critically evaluate the reasoning, evidence, and communication strategies of self and others," though the competency guidelines call for courses to meet only 5 of the 6 learning objectives, which COMM 1101 does. Since this is ISU's only course to fulfill the Objective, GERC will send a letter alerting COMM that they may choose to submit a revised proposal if they want to.

Objective 3, Mathematics

MATH 1127: a revised proposal showing how the course meets learning objectives 2 ("Represent and interpret information/data") and 4 ("Apply quantitative reasoning to draw appropriate conclusions and support them").

MATH 1153: a revised proposal showing how the course meets learning objective 3 ("Select, execute and explain appropriate strategies/procedures when solving mathematical problems") and perhaps strengthen how it meets learning objective 1 ("Read, interpret, and communicate mathematical concepts").

MGT 2216: a revised proposal showing how the course meets learning objective 3 ("Select, execute and explain appropriate strategies/procedures when solving mathematical problems") and perhaps strengthen how it meets learning objective 1 ("Read, interpret, and communicate mathematical concepts").

Objective 4, Humanities, Fine Arts & Foreign Languages

EDUC 1110: a revised proposal showing how the course meets at least 5 of the 7 learning objectives; or, if department so chooses, a new proposal of the course for Objective 6, Social & Behavioral Sciences.

HONS 1102: this course proposal was remanded for revision by GERC in fall 2013, and will need to be revised and re-submitted anyway -- this time, following the format of the new learning objectives, which we think it is likely to meet.

LANGs 1101-1102: will need an addendum to the original proposal showing how the language courses meet a 5th learning objective from the SBOE list (we see they meet 2,3,4,7 so far).

Objective 5, Physical & Natural Sciences

PHYS 1111-1114, 2211-2214 (remanded), 1152-3 (approved): revised proposals for all PHYS courses showing how the courses meet new learning outcomes 3 (“Interpret and communicate scientific information via written, spoken, and/or visual representations”) and/or 5 (“Form and test a hypothesis in the laboratory or field using discipline-specific tools and techniques for data collection and analysis”). For the formerly remanded PHYS 1111-4, 2211-4, revised proposals will also need to better show how the courses meet all learning objectives.

CHEM 1101 (rejected), 1103: revised proposals as per GERC’s findings in fall 2013, in particular showing how the courses teach the scientific method.

Objective 6, Social Science

ANTH 1100 (remanded): revised proposal with better description of how the course meets at least 4 of the 5 new SBOE learning objectives.

HIST 1101-2, 1111-2: revised proposals with better description of how the courses meet at least 4 of the 5 new SBOE learning objectives.

TGE 0135: revised proposal with better description of how the course meets at least 4 of the 5 new SBOE learning objectives.

PSYCH 1101: revised proposal with better description of how the course meets at least 4 of the 5 new SBOE learning objectives.

Proposed Revisions to SBOE Policy and Science Guidelines
Suggested by ISU General Education Requirements Committee (GERC)
April 11, 2014

Idaho State Board of Education
GOVERNING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
SECTION: III. POSTSECONDARY AFFAIRS
N. Statewide General Education

April 2014

5. General Education Requirement

- a. This subsection applies to Associate of Arts, Associate of Science, and Baccalaureate degrees.

General Education curricula must reflect the following credit distribution:

Competency Area	Minimum Credits
Written Communication	3 to 6 (depending on placement)
Oral Communication	2
Mathematical Ways of Knowing	3
Scientific Ways of Knowing	7 (from two different disciplines with at least one laboratory or field experience)
Humanistic and Artistic Ways of Knowing	6 (from two different disciplines)
Social and Behavioral Ways of Knowing	6 (from two different disciplines)
Institutionally-Designated Competency Areas	6 to 9 (depending on Written Communication placement)

Proposed revisions:

Written Communication: 3 credits

Institutionally-Designated Competency Areas: 9 credits

Rationale: It is illogical to treat Written Communication courses differently than Math courses, where in both cases students may need to take lower level courses in order to be prepared to take a course that meets the competency guidelines. At ISU, ENGL 1102 meets the competency guidelines, whereas ENGL 1101 does not.

Approved by ISU General Education Requirements Committee (GERC): April 8, 2014

Natural, Physical, and Applied Science General Education Skill Competency and Knowledge Objectives

Proposed revisions:

Definition: A person who is competent in scientific reasoning adheres to a self-correcting system of inquiry (the scientific method) and relies on empirical evidence to describe, understand, and predict natural phenomena.

Competency and Knowledge Objectives:

To meet the Natural, Physical & Applied Sciences requirement of the general education core, courses must cover ~~all~~ four of five objectives below.

1. Apply foundational knowledge and models of a natural or physical science to analyze and/or predict phenomena.
2. Understand the scientific method and apply scientific reasoning to critically evaluate assertions.
3. Interpret and communicate scientific information via written, spoken, and/or visual representations.
4. Describe the relevance of specific scientific principles to the human experience.
5. Form and test a hypothesis in the *laboratory, ~~classroom~~, or field using discipline-specific tools and techniques for data collection and/or analysis.

***Institution catalogs should display a lab requirement for one of the science courses.**

Rationale: The current language dilutes our expectations of labs, and demands a very specific exercise that would be awkward to implement in some lecture courses. The document should be reverted to the previous version, without the word "classroom" but with only 4/5 objectives required (or 4/5 for lectures, and 5/5 for labs).

Approved by ISU General Education Requirements Committee (GERC): April 8, 2014

Mathematics

General Education Skill Competency and Knowledge Objectives

Proposed minimal revisions, recommended by ISU Mathematics Department:

Definition:

Coursework in this area is intended to develop an understanding of mathematical reasoning processes and the ability to utilize these processes to **solve mathematical problems beyond high school level**.

Competency and Knowledge Objectives:

To meet the mathematics requirement of the general education core, courses must cover **at least three out of the following four** competency/knowledge objectives.

1. Read, interpret, and communicate mathematical **or statistical** concepts.
2. Represent, interpret **and process** information/data.
3. Select, execute and explain appropriate strategies/procedures when solving mathematical **or statistical** problems.
4. Apply **logic and mathematical** reasoning to draw appropriate conclusions and support **them by numerical or symbolic computation**.

Reviewed and **approved** for submission to the SBOE via electronic vote by ISU General Education Requirements Committee (GERC): April 10, 2014

Proposed maximum rewrite, recommended by ISU Mathematics Department: *(Rejected by GERC; however, it was submitted to SBOE by Academic Affairs at the request of the Math Department.)*

Objectives for Goal 3 Mathematics courses

General education mathematics courses should teach students mathematics or statistics beyond high school level and help students achieve at least two of the following four goals:

- acquire some proficiency with abstract concepts and mathematical reasoning, and become familiar with proofs
- learn the language of mathematics and acquire skills in writing mathematics
- learn how to translate real world problems into the language of mathematics and interpret mathematical solutions of these problems in real world terms
- develop fluency in symbolic and numerical computation

Reviewed and **rejected** for submission to the SBOE via electronic vote by ISU General Education Requirements Committee (GERC): April 10, 2014

General Education Requirements Committee **Meeting Minutes**
Tuesday, 22 April 2014
Faculty Senate Conference Room REND 301
2:30-4:00 p.m.

Attendance:

Members Present: Leonid Hanin (replacing Tracy Payne), Andrew Holland (Vice Chair), Tara Johnson (Secretary), Erika Kuhlman, Jerry Lyons, Randy Norton, Cathy Peppers (Chair), Sandra Shropshire, Jim Skidmore
Ex-Officio: Lori Austill, Jim Bigelow (UCC), Margaret Johnson (Academic Affairs), Sarah Mead, Catherine Read
Guests: None

Minutes from 8 April 2014 meeting were not ready yet, will be voted on by email

GERC Officers elected for next year: Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary

Secretary: **Tara Johnson** re-elected, with one abstention
Vice Chair: **Andy Holland** re-elected unanimously
Chair: **Cathy Peppers** re-elected, with one abstention

Motion: Approve the revised course description for CS 1181, no impact on its meeting Objective 7: Critical Thinking; CS 1181 may continue as a Gen Ed course.
Approved (unanimous)

Motion: Approve the revised Gen Ed proposal: ANTH 2237, 2238 and 2239 for Objective 9: Cultural Diversity for the 2015-16 undergraduate catalog.
Approved (8 for, 0 against, 1 abstention)
Letter of approval to department will include statement of concerns about ensuring consistency among the various course offerings.

SBOE Updates re: Statewide GEM Policy and Competency Guidelines – Margaret Johnson

SBOE did accept the recommendations from GERC, but did not make it into final version, probably because submitted so late and not enough time to get input from the broader discipline Learning Outcome groups. SBOE assured ISU that this is not the end of the discussion, however. Objective 1 Writing group also expressed concerns. Jim DiSanza is on the main SBOE Policy task force; Margaret will check with him and get updates over the summer. SBOE policy and GEM rubrics were approved by SBOE. Academic Affairs will send an email to all faculty with the final versions of the new policy and rubrics.

Discussion: What specifically to ask departments to submit for their revisions to remanded proposals: whether a whole new proposal or just addenda addressing the particular areas requested. GERC has copies of the original proposals that can be used for reference. Also in

question was how final SBOE's rubrics were, especially the Science one (which was waiting for word whether the courses had to meet only 4, or all 5, of the learning outcomes); that could affect what GERC has to require from the departments. Margaret will ask SBOE to send the final versions, and will provide those to Catherine to send to council members and post on the website. Cathy will draft a letter to deans and departments and send it to Catherine, who will send it along with the final rubrics and GERC's audit list once she receives the final Competency Guidelines.

New deadline of September 19, 2014 was established for Gen Ed proposal submissions for the 2015-16 catalog.

New business: summer work for GERC members?

Margaret explained the Provost recognized that a few GERC members may need to work on some tasks over the summer; if so, some money would be available for stipends. Once the new Competency Guidelines are finalized, the assessment piece has to be addressed. Margaret and Selena Grace will provide an assessment plan and information for GERC to work with next fall. Sandi Shropshire offered to help work on the assessment piece over the summer, since she's 12-month faculty. Jim Skidmore is also interested in the assessment piece. Cathy Peppers will be the summer contact for other GERC business over the summer.

Sample proposals: members volunteered to write sample proposals to post to the website.

Objective 5, Science: Andy Holland volunteered

Objective 4, Humanities: Jim Skidmore volunteered

Objective 3, Math: check with Jim Wolper, the new math rep coming on in the fall

Next meeting: not until Fall 2014!

Approved by GERC: May 7, 2014 via email vote

Accepted by UCC: May 14, 2014 via email

Accepted by Provost: July 2, 2014