

## **Minutes of the Meeting of the General Education Committee, February 17, 2011.**

**Present:** Matt O'Mansky, Phil Munro, Mike Crist, Brian Bonhomme, Sue Miller, Bob Beebe, Sharon Stringer, Tod Porter (Chair), Sarah Lowry (student rep.).

### **Meeting called to order at 3:05PM**

Minutes of previous meeting reviewed and approved.

### **Meeting with the Deans**

The Chair reported on his recent presentation to the Deans of current proposals for General Education curriculum reform. The Deans were generally favorable. They made some suggestions, including possibly providing General Education credit within the Responsible Citizenship domain ("International Participation" silo) for courses taken outside the US.\* Other, unspecified Responsible Citizenship categories were proposed informally. The Chair will now make similar presentations to the six colleges, student government, and academic advisors.

### **Student Government Proposal for Freshman Experience Requirement:**

Steve Mesik, SGA President, presented SGA committee proposals for a Freshman Experience requirement. He distributed the following goals and outcomes:

#### Goals:

1. Students will be able to demonstrate a basic understanding of the academic expectations necessary to be a student at Youngstown State University.
2. Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of University Life and of how Youngstown State University is a part of the Youngstown community.

#### Learning Outcomes:

1. Students will be able to demonstrate a basic understanding of academic expectations in the areas of reading, writing, and critical thinking.
2. Students will engage in community efforts by completing three hours of service.
3. Students will demonstrate an understanding of services available on Youngstown State University's campus by completing a series of activities that utilize those services.

The committee viewed the proposal favorably in general but raised questions on several points, including: how many sections? Who would teach? How many credits (if any)? Number of class meetings per semester? Should this be a course or another sort of requirement? The General Education committee also discussed the practicality of the service component, and various issues of content. No action was taken. The General Education committee thanked the SGA president and invited his committee to consider the issue further and report back.

Respectfully submitted, Brian Bonhomme

\*Revised by the same, Feb. 25 (Revision underlined).