GE Committee Meeting Minutes

April 21, 2008

Present: Peter Griswold, Jean Levitan, Kathy Malanga, John Peterman, Aaron Tesfaye, Rob McCallum, Hilary Wilder

Meeting was convened at 3:45pm

I. **Approval of Minutes**: minutes from March 6, 2008 and April 3, 2008 meetings were approved
II. **Terms of Office**:
    Although members of the GE Committee serve a two-year term, it is requested that all members either fill out the form sent by Kurt Wagner (http://www.wpunj.edu/library/forms/senatecouncils.cfm) or contact Terry Finnegan on the Faculty Senate Executive Committee to let them know that you would like to continue on the committee for the 2008-2009 academic year.
III. **Meeting with the Provost:**
    J. Peterman and J. Levitan met with the Provost who continues to be supportive of the committee's efforts. This includes the possibility of support for a committee retreat in the early summer. In addition, the Provost did not place any restrictions on potential GE proposals that may require extra resources (faculty professional development, etc.) or proposals that might require significant changes or a longer roll-out period. The Provost recognizes that the Middle States visit scheduled for Fall 2010 may coincide with either a new GE in place or one that is in the process of being implemented.
IV. **April 24 Forum**:
    K. Malanga shared a set of slides and a draft agenda which will be given to participants of the April 24th Forum. The slides give examples from a number of other institutions, showing their first-year programs and upper-level GE programs. The forum will start with a brief introduction by J. Levitan and a report on the Learning Literacies assessment efforts by M. Wahrman. J. Peterman and K. Malanga will then present the first-year and upper-level models, with time allotted for Q&A from the participants as well as three specific questions for participants to consider. The posters and binders from previous forums will also be available.
    K. Malanga will circulate a final pdf version of the slides and the agenda (which will be incorporated into the pdf'd slides) and also post it on the K drive. It is hoped that a link to the file can be sent around electronically to the entire WPU community (via discussion lists and WPU Announcements) ahead of time.
V. **May 15 Forum**:
    The objectives of the May 15 forum were discussed. As part of this it was recognized that we need a process for taking in/considering/incorporating ideas for GE from the WPU community. It was decided that May 15 would be the start date for submitting these "ideas" (using language that emphasizes that we are not thinking of submissions as competing proposals) and that submissions would be accepted up till September 30, 2008. The Research sub-committee is working on a set of guiding principles and a template that people would be asked to use as a way of encouraging some type of consistency in approaches.
    In addition to being a kick-off for the ideas submission period, the May 15th forum will provide an overview of the years' efforts and address questions and concerns as part of an open discussion.
VI. **Meetings with Departments**:
    J. Peterman and J. Levitan have met with the majority of the academic departments as well as the library to hear their specific concerns, questions, etc. They will continue the visits next Fall to departments that they were unable to meet with this year.

VII.   **Next Meeting**: The next GE Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, May, 8 at 12:30-1:45 . Venue TBD.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Hilary Wilder