

General Education Task Force Meeting Notes (10/29/10)

Present: Cliff Abbott, Lucy Arendt, Derry Block, Tim Dale, Debbie Furlong, Scott Furlong, Regan Gurung, Ray Hutchison, Donna Ritch, John Stoll, Georjeanna Wilson-Doenges

1. Scott distributed an article "Resource-Friendly Reform in General Education."
2. The AAC&U proposal "Shared Futures: Global Learning and Social Responsibility" was not accepted.
3. Scott outlined two major goals for this meeting: 1) continue discussion of survey responses and 2) begin developing a model for general education. The hope is that a new model for general education will be implemented in Fall 2012. The Task Force also needs to begin thinking about assessment and specific areas of general education, such as writing emphasis.
4. The data showed a remarkable degree of consensus in certain areas. The respondents disagreed with the idea of thematic clusters, but agreed that general education should be achieved through interdisciplinary courses and disciplinary courses and critical social problems should not exclusively be taught through major courses.
5. Many written comments included resource issues. Members agree that a resource plan should be included with any general education model developed. The resource plan could include discussions of inefficiencies in our current general education plan, class size, and that with reform it might be possible to save resources. Members of the task force also decided that conversations should occur with all units so that they can help piece together the resource issue.
6. Scott and a small group of task force members will develop several general education models for presentation at the next meeting.

Next Meeting: TBD