General Education Task Force Meeting Notes (4/28/11)

Present: Cliff Abbott, Kevin Collins, Susan Cook, Tim Dale, Heidi Fencil, Debbie Furlong, Scott Furlong, Ray Hutchison, Andrew Kersten, Donna Ritch, Bryan Vescio, Georjeanna Wilson-Doenges

1. The Task Force members welcomed Susan Cooper, Assistant Professor in Education. Susan is replacing Pao Lor.

2. The notes from the last meeting were approved.

3. Scott designed a pictorial model to depict the General Education program after our last discussion about using consistent language when presenting General Education Model. The model is a bridge in a “sea of interdisciplinarity.” Many felt that the diagram captured what we are doing with general education with some slight revisions. The first year perspectives course is a way to prep students, while the senior capstone course prepares students to move on to whatever they choose to do. Breadth and perspectives courses support the college education. Several members had suggestions regarding the “untethered fog” – place this information vertically connecting to the major/minor programs/electives; bring cables to join breadth and perspectives courses.

4. The next handout was a curriculum map for the General Education Model. The map links requirements in the General Education Model to the earlier goals that the Task Force developed.

5. The last handouts were learning outcomes (some adopted in whole or part from the AAC&U) and a critical thinking value rubric developed by the AAC&U. Discussion focused on the involvement of the domain subcommittees in the development of the breadth learning outcomes and the use of rubrics for assessment. This discussion will continue at the next meeting.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 17 at 8:30 AM; room to be announced