General Education Task Force Meeting Notes (6/15/11)

Present: Cliff Abbott, Lucy Arendt, Derryl Block, Kevin Collins, Susan Cooper-Twamley, Tim Dale, Heidi Fencl, Scott Furlong, Regan Gurung, Ray Hutchison, Andrew Kersten, Donna Ritch, John Stoll

1. Three subcommittees were established
   • Assessment – Donna (convener), Heidi, Debbie, and Georjeanna
   • Capturing elements, such as incorporation of skills into a general education program – Cliff (convener), Susan, and Debbie
   • Structure issues, such as ownership of the General Education program and a General Education faculty and its appointment – Lucy (convener), Cliff, and John
   • Include Scott on all subcommittee meetings

2. The group discussed the unit resource impact spreadsheet that Scott distributed. The purpose of the spreadsheet is to show the seats currently offered in general education compared to what the seat numbers would look like under the proposed model. General education courses in each unit were placed into new potential categories and tabulated. The principles used when developing the spreadsheet were:
   • Disciplinary courses were included in appropriate interdisciplinary units.
   • Caps were adjusted on some courses.
   • 300 and 400 level courses were omitted since they should not be general education because of the number of prerequisites in most cases.
   • Senior capstones could include field experiences, research, internships, etc.
   • Courses instructed by ad hocs were included

   After reviewing the spreadsheet, the number of seats that we currently offer would be very close to the number of seats in the new gen ed model.

3. Other discussion items included:
   • Is it worth the time now for each unit to provide a list of courses that correspond to the seats? At some point, this would have to happen.
   • How do transfer students fit into the model?
   • Embed resources within the First Year Perspective courses, such as a research librarian

The next meeting is scheduled for July 19 from 9:00 – 10:30 AM. This will likely change because several members felt we needed a longer period to discuss these items.