General Education Task Force Meeting Notes (10/19/12)

Present: Cliff Abbott, Lucy Arendt, Kevin Collins, Susan Cooper, Heidi Fencl, Scott Furlong, Andy Kersten, Sue Mattison, Tom Nesslein, Donna Ritch, John Stoll
Guest: Provost Julia Wallace

1. The meeting began with a celebratory “Wahoo!” cake as the General Education Reform Model had passed the Faculty Senate. Provost Wallace expressed her gratitude to the task force for “sticking to their guns.” She said this model is much better for the students to understand. Scott also thanked the task force for their time and effort and special thanks to Bryan, Lucy, Cliff, and Tim Dale for meeting with units to explain the model and answer questions and to Lucy and Bryan for presenting the model to the Faculty Senate.

2. There were no modifications of the notes from the past meeting.

3. Scott updated members regarding two changes the Senate made to the model: 1) a split of the science credits so students are required to take 3 credits from the biological sciences and 3 credits from the natural sciences and 2) a 3 credit requirement for quantitative competency. A follow up discussion centered upon whether this should be a 3 credit course or infused as a skill in other courses. It was the feeling of the task force members that the Senate felt this should be a separate course as indicated on the handout the Senators had. The question arose as to whether the course should be double counted as another requirement.

4. Scott began a discussion as to how we transition to the new model. There was consensus among the group that a report should be submitted to the GEC to provide what the task force has done so far and guidelines as to how to work through the implementation using the learning outcomes that we had previously developed.

5. The task force discussed a timeline for course development, GEC approval, etc.

NEXT MEETING: Friday, November 16, 2012 at 3:00 PM in MAC 201