

UND General Education Task Force
Meeting Minutes
11/3/06

Meeting called to order ~3 PM.

Announcements:

- Two open forums are planned to solicit additional input from interested parties. They will be held in the River Valley Room of the Union at 4 PM on 11/16 and 1 PM on 11/17.
 - These are intended as a means for individuals to get in touch with the TF
 - An email soliciting input will also be sent
- Subcommittee Reconfiguration
 - Dept. Liaison – Matt C.
 - Kim K., Ray L., Lori R., Jay F., Donna B.
 - Proposal Writing – Joan H.
 - Daphne S. (Ike S. as reviewer)
 - Visibility – Libby R.
 - Wilbur S., Lisa B., Keaton S., Sally P.
 - Program Support – Anne W.
 - Joey B., Pat O., Bruce D., Steve L., Jim M., Ryan Zerr (GER)
 - Program R&I – Martha P.
 - Art J., Dan R., Pam K., Helen M.

From Diversity Subcommittee:

- We looked at other universities to see what they are doing wrt Diversity and also at what UND has published wrt Diversity
- Results like the longitudinal study indicate students aren't getting much from current World Cultures classes in terms of Diversity (seem to be getting more from study abroad, etc.)
- As a result, we recommend:
 - Use of the term Diversity instead of Culture which seems to imply ethnicity
 - 6 credits (2 classes), 3 credits in US Diversity, 3 credits on Global Diversity
 - Study abroad or experiential learning (minimum 4 weeks) would count for 1 class (3 credits)
 - 50% of the course would have to focus on Diversity

Discussion:

Would languages count? Probably not if they focus only on the mechanics, but language taught in the context of culture could. We want to encourage, not discourage, study of foreign language.

What currently seems to be lacking in the WC requirement is the theoretical pedagogical foundations for diversity.

How do individual experiences get approved under this proposal? Possibly on a case-by-case basis partnering with those with experience in the area (Lana Rakow?, Ray L.?).

What about incoming foreign students? Possibly waive Global requirement but not US.

What are the implications in terms of more credits assigned to Diversity than QR, for example? Some on the TF feel this implies a higher value assigned to a certain area, others feel it is an artificial measure of importance.

Voting:

- Define diversity per subcommittee proposal (expanded to other areas than ethnic culture):
17(Y) – 1(N) – 0(A) – **Passes**
- Should the Diversity requirement have 3 or 6 credits: 10(3cr) – 6(6cr) – 2(??) – **More Discussion**

Discussion:

Why the geographic breakdown when diversity can be defined by other measures than location?

Can talk about Diversity forever – it doesn't seem to sink in w/o experience. But some students have the experience and seem unchanged.

What if the 3 credits were all experiential? We need an academic piece to give students the theory and help them analyze what they have experience.

Voting:

- Should the Diversity requirement have 3 or 6 credits: 13(3cr) – 5(6cr) – 0(??) – **3 Credits**
- Bullet Point #5 on the proposal: 16(Y) – 2 (N) – 0 (??) – **Passes**
- Can experience be substituted for academic course: 6(Y) – 11(N) – 1(??) – **More Discussion**

Discussion:

Reiteration of need for theoretical component

Voting:

- Can experience be substituted for academic course: 3(Y) – 14(N) – 1(??) – **Fails**