

**MINUTES**  
**General Education Council, October 16, 2007**

**Call to Order:** 2:05pm

**Members Present:** Richard Hackett, Tyrone Stafford (proxy for Cherrie Wilmoth), Jane Hicks, Nancy Hill, Jim Cunningham, Betty Clay, Jane Elder, Steve McKim, Brett Elliott, Sharon Morrison, John Mischo, Shannon McCraw, Gleny Beach, chair Bryon Clark, ex-officio Chip Weiner

**Members Absent:**

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Shannon McCraw to approve the minutes from the May 1 meeting. The motion was seconded by Jane Elder and was approved by acclamation.

**Announcements:** The chair welcomed the committee members back and the committee members congratulated the chair on the good comments received from the Higher Learning Commission with regards to general education and for the fact that no other report will be required until 2013.

**New Business:** Brett Elliott volunteered to be the recorder for the committee.

A proposal from Michael Miles was introduced requesting that the representation on the General Education Council from the Department of Fine Arts be reduced from two to one. Shannon McCraw made a motion to accept the proposal. It was seconded by Jane Elder and, after some discussion, approved unanimously. Dr. Clark will forward the request to the Faculty Senate for their consideration.

Dr. Clark submitted a draft of a memo that he would like to send to the deans and chairs with the council's approval. It addresses the procedure that should be used by departments when requesting new general education courses. A motion to send the document was made by Richard Hackett. It was seconded by Shannon McCraw and approved unanimously.

Dr. Clark discussed some possible issues that the General Education Council might take up in the future. One was developing a *Communicating Across the Curriculum* initiative. The council members expressed some interest in this and a willingness to pursue the idea. Dr. Mischo suggested we might emulate other comparable universities that have had similar programs that were successful.

Dr. Clark also discussed what might be done in the area of teacher development. Resources that new faculty might need could be acquired or developed. It was suggested that a mentoring program could be used. Dr. Weiner made mention of the Teaching Academy that once existed on our campus and that it could be brought back.

Dr. Clark mentioned that soon we may see some civic engagement proposals for general education courses coming to our council.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 20, 2007 at 2pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45pm.