



COMMISSION ON THE UNIVERSITY EXPERIENCE

**MINUTES
November 11, 2004**

Present: Chad Arakawa, Cris de la Torre, Dick Dietz, Marcus Embry, Jeff Farmer, Cynthia Galovich, Dianna Gray, Greg Heald, Kevin Laxalt, Marie Livingston, Mary Schuttler, Tom Trelogan, and Doug Woody

Absent: David Caldwell, Jim Keaten, and Vinnie Scalia

Dick Dietz called the meeting to order.

1. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the November 4 meeting were approved as corrected.

2. Announcements

Dick has invited the CCHE representative to the GE25 Council to attend the Commission's meeting on December 2.

The CUE forum –CUE Online– is up and running. Jeff Farmer and Cris de la Torre have both posted comments.

There will be a report given on the activities of the Commission to the Faculty Senate at each meeting.

3. Materials, Readings, and Information

Several members have books that they offered to the Commission to borrow.

Greg Heald offered to put any publications or documents on reserve in the Library. The Library has invested in some of the AAC&U publications. If anyone finds other books please let him know.

Tom Trelogan reported that he would list the publications, documents, and papers on the CUE Web site. E-reserve materials are also on the Web site for people to access. Commission members can contact him to place additional documents on the Web site.

4. Assignment – The First Four Attachments

There was a lengthy discussion on the articles assigned for today and on general education as a whole. Several members of the Commission had questions, ideas, and suggestions as to how this committee should proceed.

Questions:

If the CCHE Performance Contract is supposed to be implemented by 2006, is it going to be possible to make very extensive changes to the general education program?

If the Commission creates new courses for general education, how long will it take to approve them for 2006-2007 catalog?

What are the priorities of this Commission? We may need the guidance of the CCHE, NCA and our administration.

Will more dollars be available to implement the new general education program? For example: will there be money to support smaller classes in order to teach critical thinking?

Is there a possibility of getting the CCHE to accept courses from UNC into the State Transfer Core that aren't equal to courses at other universities/colleges?

Does this Commission want to put together a survey of students?

Ideas & Thoughts:

The current General Education Program works – don't throw it away and start totally over. Keep the distribution list and add 1-2 core courses that all students will be required to take.

The NCA cautioned against making huge changes in the current General Education Program. It suggested, instead, that we make incremental changes. We have a good program, but it can be improved.

We should look at the current General Education Program to see what competencies and skills it's designed to instill and see if they include all the things we want it to do.

The marketing and the quality of general education both need to be improved. The program needs to be really attractive so students will not want to get their general education at junior colleges.

The new program will need to be implemented by Fall 06 for incoming freshmen. Upperclassmen will be grandfathered into their *Catalogs*.

There will be a small flexibility with the new general education program, maybe 5 credit hours.

We shouldn't let the money issue constrain the Commission. What would we like to do? Optimal solution versus budget.

The Commission will want to get student input. In 1999, General Education underwent program review and a Noel-Levitz student survey was done that included a few questions on General Education. Cynthia Galovich will check to see if a survey has been done since then.

Pedagogy is very important. Faculty needs to take ownership of teaching the students. The Commission would like to see more emphasis on teaching, not more emphasis on research.

5. Other

Dick asked who was interested in attending the AAC&U conference in San Francisco. Mary Schuttler, Kevin Laxalt, and Cris de la Torre are interested in attending.

Dick asked that the Commission read attachments 5-12 for the meeting on Thursday, November 18.

A chair will be elected at the meeting on November 18.

Meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

Submitted by

Sandy Pope
Recording Secretary