



COMMISSION THE UNIVERSITY EXPERIENCE

**MINUTES
February 10, 2005**

Present: David Caldwell, Cris de la Torre, Dick Dietz, Marcus Embry Jeff Farmer,
Cynthia Galovich, Dianna Gray, Greg Heald, Jim Keaten, Matt Lang, Kevin Laxalt, ,
Marie Livingston, Mary Schuttler, Tom Trelogan, and Doug Woody

Absent: Vinnie Scalia

Guests: Allen Huang, Provost and Bob Hetzel, Assistant Vice President for Auxiliary Services

Cynthia Galovich called the meeting to order.

1. Approval of Minutes

Mary Schuttler/Dianna Gray moved to approve the minutes of the February 3 meeting.
Motion carried.

2. Announcements

None

3. Discussion

Cynthia Galovich reported on a meeting hosted yesterday by the Provost at which she, Dick Dietz, and Tom Trelogan were able to meet with Matt Gianneschi to learn more about the likely constraints state policies will place on the commission's work. She briefly discussed a number of possible gtPathways revisions currently being considered by the CCHE and the Academic Council (see attached document).

Dr. Huang further discussed the possible implications of these revisions for Foreign Language courses. He also reported that he will be submitting a total of 78 courses from UNC to CCHE, GE 25 by March 1 (see attached document). Finally, he stated that as a result of Phase I of this commission's work, the courses available for students to take should go from 254 courses to 160 and that as a result of Phase II, the courses should go from 160 to 60 100- and 200-level for the final Best University Experience.

Tom Trelogan reported that it also emerged at this meeting that the CCHE is no longer insisting that all courses in our basic core (of 35-37 hours, or a minimum of 31 hours, or whatever it eventually turns out to be) be courses approved for inclusion in gtPathways. To be included in our basic core, courses will need to have been nominated, but they won't have to have been approved. Regarding the current round of nominations, Tom also reported finding places for the 7a and b in gtPathways is turning out to be a bit like fitting a "square peg in a round hole": the courses don't fit tidily into the core transfer categories.

Jeff Farmer stated that this is the Commission on the University Experience, not the Commission on General Education. This commission needs to think of what is most important for students.

Sandy Pope reported on future CCHE/GE 25 deadlines as follows:

For courses to be approved by January 2006

March 1 submissions will be reviewed on April 22 (and sometime in May if Necessary)

There will be September and November deadlines for Fall 2005 submissions

It was suggested that we need to develop UNC criteria for the state categories. We need to look at the state competencies and compare them to the current General Education Program competencies and then if needed, add to those competencies.

The question was raised once again as to what we should do with the flexible hours – the 3-5 or 6-9 hours we'll have to play with?

Marie Livingston suggested that we need to decide what we want our program to provide our students with. She argued that the program should

- a. be integrative
- b. teach students about social problems and strategies for solving them
- c. give students a global/international perspective
- d. enable students to think effectively about methodological issues

Charting the Future goals – how well do the state competencies address the competencies identified as important in the final CTF report?

It was suggested again that we need to do some sort of student survey. UNC has a lot of first generation students and we need to meet not only their needs but the needs of all students. Vinnie had reported at an earlier meeting that the commission needs an accurate demographic of our student population. Jim Keaten will check with Vinnie regarding this.

Kevin Laxalt would like someone to talk to the commission on how the whole approval process works not only for the state core but how the General Education Program process also works.

It was suggested that more research needs to be done on how general education works at similar sized institutions. The Georgia State and Dick Dietz documents were brought up as examples (see attached documents).

4. Other

For the next meeting Cynthia would like the commission's members to think about what we have now in general education and where the Commission wants to go.

Cynthia will look at the Communication competencies AND Jeff Farmer will look at the Math competencies from gtPathways and UNC's current General Education program and will report at the next meeting.

Tom Trelogan handed out a list of all UNC courses that either have already been nominated or are now in the process of being nominated for inclusion in gtPathways that identifies the courses that have already been approved and those that seem highly likely to be approved (see attached document).

Meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Submitted by
Sandy Pope
Recording Secretary