

GENERAL STUDIES COMMITTEE
Annual Report 2002-03

Members: Sandra E. Brown and William E. Sweigart, ex officio
Ron Allman, Social Sciences
Marshal Cady, Natural Sciences
Lee Morganett, Education
Alan Wong, Business and Economics
Annette Wyandotte, Arts and Letters, chair.

Fall, 2002

September 26th –

- Reported on program changes resulting from 2001-02 assessment review of W405 portfolios.
- Reviewed 2002-03 goals submitted by SCS Director.
- Agreed to investigate desirability of changing the examples of extraordinary circumstances in bulletin under Program Admission.
- Agreed to review all spring petitions for program admission as a test to determine efficacy of continuing deference to petitions with approval of advisors.

October 14th

- Granted Petition of Phyllis Rose SanAngelo for Math Waiver subject to certification by JCC that she passed Math 108, Intermediate Algebra for 3 hours credit. Certification of grade of A received 10/15/02.

Spring, 2003

January 24th

- Reviewed and approved spring petitions for program admission. Denied admission to Guren, Johnson, Basler, Castile, Bastin, Hurst, Branstetter, and Gross for failing to substantiate the inadequacy of pertinent traditional degree programs.
- Modified the terms of the petition form for program admission as specified in the minutes for 1/24/03, item 4.
- Amended examples of extraordinary circumstances in bulletin under Program Admission (see attachment 1), after a review of a) the committee's Faculty Senate charge; b) the SCS Bulletin; and c) historical facets of the program degrees based on archival notes provided by Kyle Forinash, which will subsequently be archived in the IUS library.
- Voted to regularly resume the reading of all future petitions for program admission based on the process of the January petition review.

February 14th

- Raised the W290 grade from C- to C for entry into the capstone course W405.

March 21st

- Approved the amended petition of Jennifer Guren for program admission.

April 18th

- Approved the petition of Petzold to accept M110 Excursions into Mathematics in lieu of the program requirement for Math.
- Voted to change the language of the 2000 Assessment Plan to permit the W290 and W405 surveys to be retained in degree portfolios but only to be reported to the committee as part of assessment statistically as a whole.
- Began the assessment review of degree portfolios drawn at random by the program director (5th, 8th, and 11th names on rosters of the spring and fall 2002 sections of W405, unless withdrawn or incomplete).

April 25th

- Denied petition of Bowman to count Anth B200 for her math requirement based on the feedback of Dr. Ben Nassim about Anth B200.
- Completed the assessment review of degree portfolios.

1. Revised the rubric for 2003-04 as follows:
A.1. B. The student's professional (*academic or career*) growth in information & knowledge.

B.7. Relevant course materials evidence that the writer can engage in problem solving or conflict resolution by implementing a plan of action *or considering options for their resolution.*

C.2.a. write for *two or more* purposes

C.4.a. development (*support for ideas*)

C.4.d. generally correct mechanics

C.5. The relevant course materials evidence that the writer can engage in peer review or other collaborative work.

1. Agreed as follows, in discussing the process and results:
 - a) To request that Writing Program administrator(s) encourage the W405 instructor to ask that in writing their reflective papers, students reflect specifically on ways that the 4 areas (reading, writing, reasoning, and ethical skills) have evolved from particular courses they've taken, as well as how these skills actually affect their lives as students or individuals.
 - b) To encourage the future committee to further refine the assessment process by

i) determining what central questions they want the/a rubric to answer about the program;
ii) designing the/a rubric that will best answer those questions³

iii) determining how best to get a representative sample that will reflect what is happening as concerns students taking the W290/W405 threshold and capstone courses; and

iv) determining an appropriate standard of achievement for where the program should be to measure against where the program is.