Undergraduate Academic Programs Committee (UAPC)

Minutes for March 16, 2005:

Meeting called to order by Doug Turner, at 4:00 pm.

Members present: Meg Cooper, Heather Nicol, Jill Reddish, Bonnie Stevens (ex officio), Rita Tekippe, Doug Turner (Chair and Senator), Carol Wilson (Senator), Jeff Reber (Secretary and Senator), Will Lloyd, Salvador Lopez, Janet Donohoe, Susan Smith (Senator).

Members absent: Anne Halsall (Senator), Joel Haynes, Sandra Stone (ex officio), Chiedu Areh, Katie Walker.

Visitors: Tim Hynes (VPAA), Winston Pickett (Physical Education)

I. Approval of February 9, 2005 minutes:

- The minutes of the meeting for February 9, 2005 were opened for discussion and approved by a majority vote.

II. Course/Program Addition, Deletion, or Modification

A. Old Business

RELE 4708
Request: Add Course
Previous Action: Sent back to revise learning objectives and rationale and to change effective date to Summer 05
New Action: Approved

English
Request: Modify program-other: B.A. degree with Secondary Ed English Certification
Previous Action: Doug to forward request to TEAC for approval.
New Action: Approved

NURS3222
Request: Add course
Previous Action: Tabled pending submission of a Program Modification request.
New Action: Approved

NURS3212
Request: Delete course
Previous Action: Tabled pending submission of a Program Modification request.
New Action: Approved

GEOG 1112
Request: Add course
Previous Action: Approved and forwarded to General Education Committee
New Action: Approved the recommendation as amended by the General Education Committee (see Addendum A) with one opposing vote

GEOG 1112L
Request: Add Lab
Previous Action: Approved and forwarded to General Education Committee
New Action: Approved the recommendation as amended by the General Education Committee (see Addendum A) with one opposing vote

GEOG 1113
Request: Add course
Previous Action: Approved and forwarded to General Education Committee
New Action: Approved the recommendation as amended by the General Education Committee (see Addendum A) with one opposing vote.

GEOG 1113L
Request: Add Lab
Previous Action: Approved and forwarded to General Education Committee
New Action: Approved the recommendation as amended by the General Education Committee (see Addendum A) with one opposing vote

FORL 2001
Request: To include the course in Core Area C.
Previous Action: Forwarded to General Education Committee
New Action: Rejected by the General Education Committee, returned to the department.

B. New Business

PHED 2628
III. New Business:

1. Tim Hynes advised the committee about UAPC’s role in monitoring learning outcomes. He suggested that such monitoring would be warranted for 1) requests for new courses and 2) requests for course modifications where the course syllabus lists no learning objectives (this would be in keeping with SACS accreditation commitments). In less obvious cases, it is up to committee to decide whether and to what extent learning outcomes should be monitored.

2. Tim Hynes also advised the committee that CPADMs requiring TEAC approval must be approved by TEAC before they can be submitted to the UAPC for approval.

3. The new CPADM form was approved by a unanimous vote.

4. Will Lloyd gave the General Education Subcommittee meeting report (minutes in Addendum A)

IV. The next meeting is scheduled for April 6 at 4:00 pm in. The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 pm.
Addendum A

UAPC General Education Subcommittee
Minutes for February 16, 2005

Attendees: Will Lloyd (chair), Janet Donohoe, David Goff, Shirley Lankford, Jon Anderson

I. Course proposals.

A. FORL 2001, World Film.

Proposal to include the course in Core Area C: After discussion of the course and the criteria for inclusion in Area C, Goff made a motion that the proposal be rejected, with a second from Anderson. The motion passed unanimously.

B. GEOG 1112, Weather and Climate, GEOG 1112L, Weather and Climate Lab, GEOG 1113, Landform Geography, GEOG 1113L, Landform Geography Lab.

Proposal to include the courses in Core Area D, Option I for non-science majors and Option II for science majors: After discussion of the course and the criteria for inclusion in Area D, Donohoe moved that the courses be

- accepted for Core Area D, Option I for non-science majors,
- rejected for Core Area D, Option II for science majors.

Goff seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

II. Critical thinking and the core.

Lloyd introduced the topic by saying that both results on the ETS Academic Profile and anecdotal evidence suggest that incoming UWG students have inadequate critical thinking skills, and that the current core curriculum is not doing enough to foster the development of those skills.

Lankford discussed the importance of information literacy as a component of critical thinking skills, and distributed a brochure on information literacy from the ACRL.

General discussion followed on defining critical thinking and the best ways to help students become more proficient at it while taking core classes. Goff and Lloyd said that they and Associate VPAA Sandra Stone were to attend an AAC&U workshop on general education February 17 – 20, and would report back to the committee what they learned there.

The consensus of the group was that Dr. Hynes should invite all interested faculty members to join the members of this committee on an ad hoc task force to consider the issue and make recommendations to this committee. The task force would:

- define what we mean by critical thinking,
- explore ways in which the problem can be addressed,
- suggest how UWG should attack the problem,
- propose an implementation plan.