WESTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY
General Education Committee
Meeting Agenda
May 4, 2007
Haas Library – 2nd floor
8:30 – 10:00 AM
Place: Haas Library—2nd floor

Members present: D. Brown, R. Drozdenko, R. Flanagan, V. Kenausis (chair), P. Secondo, L. Vaden-Goad, A. Zink

Guests: C. Summers, P. O’Neill, D. Olson, I. Carvalho, S. Lightwood

1. Appointment of recorder. – Ron Drozdenko

2. Minutes from April 13, 2007 - moved to accept (Secondo/Zink) unanimously approved

3. Community input & comments (15 minutes)

4. New Business
   a. Information was presented by P. O’Neill about using the Danbury Womens’ Center as an additional resource for FYE. Currently there is a plan for student collaboration in PSY 100 and possibly other courses.

   b. R. Flanagan discussed an issue before CUCAS related to using the term “area” versus “field” in program sheets. Motion (P. Secondo/Flanagan) to use the word “category.” Passed unanimously

   c. D. Olsen and I. Carvalho discussed the possibility of initiating a developmental program for peer to peer mentoring within FYE. A stipend will be paid to students who will be mentoring 9-10 FYE students. Mentors are expected to meet with each mentee (individually or in groups) once per semester for a cultural event. The involvement of FYE faculty would be relatively limited in this program (e.g., maintaining lists of mentors and mentees). Motion (Vaden-Goad/Brown) to integrate mentors into FYE was passed unanimously.

   d. The committee discussed the FYE coordinator job description and compensation and will ask Provost Rinker to support this position. The following points will be discussed with L. Rinker.
      • A faculty coordinator rather than administrative position is preferred.
      • Compensation of 9 credits with clerical support for first year.
      • Committee will recommend an individual for the position to the Provost for a three year minimum commitment
      • The FYE coordinator will be a member of the Gen Ed Committee, voting status to be determined.
The Committee is still considering the best method to search for and select an individual (or team of individuals) for the position.

e. The annual Gen Ed Committee report drafted by V. Kenausis for the Senate was unanimously approved (Zink/Brown).

f. The meeting time for Fall 2007 will remain Friday at 8:30am. There will be two meetings per month, the first and third Friday of the month.

g. V. Kenausis was unanimously re-elected chair of the Committee for 2007-2008. The Committee greatly appreciates the time and effort Veronica has dedicated to this position.

5. Other Business

a. The Committee unanimously approved (Flanagan/ Drozdenko) the Student Developed Study – Readings in French Mathematics presented by S. Lightwood

b. The Committee discussed the FYE budget items including adjuncts, meetings for FYE faculty and compensation for the FYE coordinator.

c. The committee unanimously recommended (Flanagan/Brown) that the Beginning College Survey of Student Engagement be initiated at June 2007 Orientation.

d. R. Drozdenko briefly reported on the Ancell Chairs’ response to the Passport proposal. The Ancell Chairs believe that co-curriculum requirements should be the responsibility of instructors and academic departments. Most Ancell chairs reported that they currently have co-curricular requirements in their departments. Therefore, the Ancell Chairs do not support a general co-curricular requirement that may become a hardship for certain groups of students (e.g., non-traditional, transfer, commuting, co-op/internship, seniors with heavy capstone workloads, etc.)

6. Adjourn 10:00am