

MINUTES

FACULTY SENATE MEETING

3 December 1996

Chairperson D. Eidam called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m. in Chryst Hall, Room 210. All departmental senators attended except those from the Counseling and Human Development and Music Departments.

Minutes

Senate approved the 19 November 1996 meeting minutes without correction.

Reports

Chairperson's Report

Chairperson D. Eidam announced changes in today's agenda: Item IX will be the election of an Academic Policies committee chairperson for a term to end in August 1997. Item X will be Program Approvals and Item XI Report of the General Education Review Committee. Eidam distributed a copy of the latest round of administrative course approvals (See Attachment A). The provost sent a message to Eidam that the Dean's Council Curricular Meeting scheduled for this Friday is canceled. The December 18 meeting will approve pending courses including those approved today.

Dr. G. Reighard is retiring and Eidam asked that each senator sign a card that Eidam circulated. J. Sheridan called Eidam to say that the General Education Task Force has been added to the agendas of student senate and representative council. Student Senate president P. Leahy requested eight copies of the General Education Task Force report.

Senators may still sign up for Commencement. Call the Provost's Office. Senate Vice Chairperson J. Piperberg will represent senate in place of the chairperson. At the next senate meeting, 4 February 1997, senate will elect its officers. Eidam noted that MU will introduce (imminent and intermediate) plus and minus grades next semester. Someone needs to go through the governance manual to make appropriate changes. He gave senators a table of items that he suggested senate refer to the Academic Policies Committee regarding plus and minus grades (See Attachment B). S. Peters/W. Dorman moved to refer the items listed in Attachment B to the Academic Policies committee for an agenda item for their first Spring 1997 meeting. The motion passed.

Administrative Officers

President

President J. Caputo said that he came to listen to senate's discussion of general education matters. Caputo said that several weeks ago he had an opportunity to look at some MU statistics. He shared one indicator with senators. MU's retention rate, especially its six year graduation rate, is among the highest in the country. The statistic is an important indicator of the success of the institution. MU is not strong in the four or five year graduation rate only in the six year rate.

Caputo said that he often speaks in favor of public higher education. He stresses how important a college education is to the future success of young people. College graduates earn more than non-college

graduates do. They express greater satisfaction with their life. They are more likely employable in bad economic times.

Public higher education may be seen as a private rather than a public good. Legislators may feel that the commonwealth citizens do not gain if the commonwealth's students receive public higher education. The legislators may feel that the individual student is getting the benefit and not the taxpayers. Therefore, the individual student should pay more of the cost of public higher education and taxpayers should not share so much of the burden of educating the students. There will be a national campaign to change this rhetoric to emphasize the public good nature of public higher education. Pennsylvania needs a more educated society.

Associate Provost for Academic Administration

Associate Provost for Academic Administration J. Stager said a few words about registration. MU completed registration two weeks ago. Some students may have said that they can not get the courses they want. MU is investigating these problems and has a wait list. Some courses were oversubscribed and others undersubscribed. There will be some adjustments to schedules after consultations with chairpersons. Tonight there is a special orientation event for new ACE students. This Saturday there is a registration-orientation for all other new students who are starting the Spring semester. MU plans a special registration day for transfer students some time in January. MU will try to give transfer students better advice. The faculty will receive more information about the event.

Stager emphasized that registration is open again starting Monday. Any student can try to drop and add directly at the registrar's office. Please inform your advisees that they can do that. MU is seeking to find additional seats in various places. Students should consult their advisors but do not need their signatures. Stager tells students with problems to see their advisors since advisors know the best way to work the system.

Committee Reports

Undergraduate Course and Program Review Committee

Undergraduate Course and Program Review Committee chairperson, R. Wismer, introduced one new course proposal under the two meeting rule:

CSCI435: Compiler Construction, a new four credit hour non General Education Course to be first offered in the Spring 1997 if approved.

Wismer introduced a modification to an existing course:

HIST251: History of Violence in the United States, an existing three credit hour General Education course to be first offered in the Winter of 1997 if approved.

A C. Koslofsky/J. Piperberg motion to approve the changes to the History 251 course at today's meeting passed.

Wismer introduced two program changes for the next meeting agenda:

Revision of the Bachelor of Science Degree in Computer Science

Chairperson Eidam noted that the above Computer Science proposal is under the one meeting rule. Yet it refers to CSCI435, Compiler Construction, that is under the two meeting rule. Senate voted to consider CSCI435 under the one meeting rule.

Changes in Policies for Majors to Complete a BA in Political Science

Joint Senate Conference Committee

Joint Senate Conference Committee chairperson, J. Piperberg, said the committee met last week and is near to writing a report. It will meet with Provost F. McNairy next week.

Faculty Emeritus

A S. Peters/J. Piperberg motion to recommend J. Rodney Bimson as Associate Professor of Health and Physical Education emeritus passed unanimously (See Attachment C).

A M. Rosenthal/C. McLeod motion to recommend Dr. John O'Donnell as Professor of English emeritus passed unanimously (See Attachment D).

A F. Erickson/J. McCade motion to recommend Dr. F. Perry Love as Professor of Educational Foundations emeritus passed unanimously (See Attachment E).

A R. Wismer/W. Price motion to recommend Dr. Gerald S. Weiss as Professor of Chemistry emeritus passed unanimously (See Attachment F).

Proposed Courses

Senate approved the following courses:

MATH102: Survey of Mathematical Ideas in Non-European Cultures, a new three credit hour, general education, CQ, QARC undergraduate course to be first offered in Fall 1997.

CSCI362: Data Structures, a new four credit undergraduate course to be first offered in Fall 1997.

CSCI395: Computer Networks, a new four credit undergraduate course to be first offered in Fall 1997.

CSCI420: Software Engineering, a new four credit undergraduate course to be first offered in Fall 1997.

CSCI425: Human Computer Interaction, a new four credit undergraduate course to be first offered in Fall 1997.

CSCI440: Theory of Computation, a new four credit undergraduate course to be first offered in Fall 1997.

CSCI466: Database Management Systems, a new four credit undergraduate course to be first offered in Fall 1997.

CSCI467: Design and Analysis of Algorithms, a new four credit undergraduate course to be offered Fall 1997.

CSCI476: Parallel Programming, a new four credit undergraduate course to be first offered Fall 1997.

Business

Election of the Chairperson of the Academic Policies Committee

Senate chairperson D. Eidam asked that the minutes express senate's gratitude to the interim chairperson of the Academic Policies Committee, V. Hauck, for his service to senate. Eidam called for nominations for a permanent chairperson of the Academic Policies Committee. The chairperson's term

ends in August of 1997. Senator C. Koslofsky nominated senator K. Bookmiller. With no other nominations, senate elected Bookmiller unanimously.

Program Approvals--Options and Program Changes

BUAD Option in International Business

Senator B. Nakhai spoke in favor of the option in international business. It would be another option for Business majors along with management, accounting, finance, and marketing. Senator A. Borger-Reese asked why foreign language courses were only optional. Nakhai said the option was not a major and there was not space for language courses. Senator S. Thompson noted that the terms of the option permit students to take all Business Administration courses even though the option advertises itself as humanistic and cross-cultural. Thompson felt that students should take a course in some other discipline. After considerable discussion, R. Mainzer/A. Borger-Reese moved to refer the International Business Option back to the Undergraduate Course and Program Review Committee. The motion failed.

R. Wismer/R. Mainzer moved to amend the option requirements listed on page 2 to require students to take at least one course outside of the Business Administration Department. After considerable discussion, D. Hutchens/Y. Soong moved to postpone action on the motion to amend until the February 3 senate meeting. The motion to postpone passed.

Senate approved A Program Change for Geography Majors: A proposal to change the completion of the major policy for geography majors. Beginning with courses taken in the Spring 1997 semester, the Geography Department requires that in order to graduate with a BA or BSE degree in geography, each student must have a grade of C or better in each course taken to satisfy major requirements: geography courses and required related courses. To be implemented Spring Semester 1997.

Governance structure for the Women's Studies Program. Senators noted that the women's studies program can not initiate courses on its own. A department must sponsor a course. A R. Wismer/W. Dorman motion to refer to the Academic Policies Committee interdisciplinary majors and minors policy matters passed. After a long discussion, a C. McLeod/R. Kerper motion to refer the proposed governance structure for the Women's Studies Program back to the Academic Policies Committee failed. A call for division showed a vote of 9 for and 11 against. A motion to postpone action until the next meeting failed. After a long discussion, senate voted to approve the proposed governance structure for the Women's Studies Program.

Report of the General Education Task Force

The General Education Review Committee reported to senate on the report of the General Education Task Force (See attachment G). Task Force chairperson J. Sheridan and senate chairperson D. Eidam have agreed that February 19, 1997, is the senate's deadline for submitting revisions or suggested recommendations. Senate has two meetings to discuss the Task Force Report.

General Education Review Committee chairperson C. Stameshkin said the committee has a reflector on Marauder. Since the hour was late, senate had to adjourn. A C. McLeod/A. Borger-Reese motion to continue the discussion at the next meeting with the highest possible priority passed.

Senate adjourned at 5:45 PM. The next meeting will be Tuesday, 4 February 1997, from 4:05-5:45 p.m. in Chryst 210.

Marvin Margolis, Secretary
Faculty Senate

Action Summary

3 December 1996

1. Course and Program Approvals

Senate approved the following courses:

HIST251: History of Violence in the United States, an existing three credit hour General Education course to be first offered in the Winter of 1997.

MATH102: Survey of Mathematical Ideas in Non-European Cultures, a new three credit hour, general education, CQ, QARC undergraduate course to be first offered in Fall 1997.

CSCI362: Data Structures, a new four credit undergraduate course to be first offered in Fall 1997.

CSCI395: Computer Networks, a new four credit undergraduate course to be first offered in Fall 1997.

CSCI420: Software Engineering, a new four credit undergraduate course to be first offered in Fall 1997.

CSCI425: Human Computer Interaction, a new four credit undergraduate course to be first offered in Fall 1997.

CSCI440: Theory of Computation, a new four credit undergraduate course to be first offered in Fall 1997.

CSCI466: Database Management Systems, a new four credit undergraduate course to be first offered in Fall 1997.

CSCI467: Design and Analysis of Algorithms, a new four credit undergraduate course to be offered Fall 1997.

CSCI476: Parallel Programming, a new four credit undergraduate course to be first offered Fall 1997.

Program Changes

A Program Change for Geography Majors: A proposal to change the completion of the major policy for geography majors. Beginning with courses taken in the Spring 1997 semester, the Geography Department requires that in order to graduate with a BA or BSE degree in geography, each student must have a grade of C or better in each course taken to satisfy major requirements: geography courses and required related courses. To be implemented Spring Semester 1997.

Governance Structure For The Women's Studies Program

2. Election of the Chairperson of the Academic Policies Committee

Senate elected senator K. Bookmiller to be chairperson of the Academic Policies Committee for a term to end August 1997.

3. Plus and Minus Grades

Senate moved to refer a list of items in the Governance Manual concerning plus and minus grades to the Academic Policies Committee for their first Spring 1997 meeting.

4. Faculty Emeritus

Senate recommended:

Mr. J. Rodney Bimson as Associate Professor of Health and Physical Education emeritus.

Dr. John O'Donnell as Professor of English emeritus

Dr. F. Perry Love as Professor of Educational Foundations emeritus.

Dr. Gerald S. Weiss as Professor of Chemistry emeritus.

5. Option in International Business

Senate postponed action on an Option in International Business until the 4 February 1997 senate meeting.

6. Interdisciplinary Majors and Minors Policy

Senate moved to refer interdisciplinary majors and minors policy matters to the Academic Policies Committee.

7. Report of the General Education Review Committee

Senate moved to continue the General Education Review Committee's discussion of the report of the General Education Task Force at the 3 February meeting with the highest possible priority.

Attachment B

Faculty Senate Minutes

3 December 1996

TO: Faculty Senate
FROM: Don Eidam (deidam@marauder, 3004)
DATE: 3 December 1996

I ask you to refer the following to the Academic Policies Committee for their first spring 1997 meeting.

In light of the introduction next fall of intermediate grades, the following *Governance Manual* references may need to be considered for interpretation or possible revision, as well as, perhaps, *Governance Manual* references to minimal QPA's (academic probation, graduation honors, ...).

(1) "Continuing Education":

Upon completing 15 credits with a "**C**" **average or better**, students may apply for degree status and continue studies on either a full or part-time basis.

(2) "Final Examination":

The final examination policy of the University shall permit a faculty member to excuse a student from the final exam providing the student has attained superior achievement (**an "A" average**) prior to the final exam.

(3) "Proficiency Policies and Placement":

Students placed in a developmental mathematics course must satisfactorily complete it with **a grade of C or above** prior to taking any mathematics course at the 100 level or higher or any QARC course

(4) "Part-Time Non-Degree Students":

After part-time non-degree students have completed at least 15 credits in at least two subject areas with an average of **C or better**, they may apply for degree-seeking status.

(5) "Academic Amnesty":

Students may use courses taken in the period before amnesty was granted to fulfill general education or major requirements, only if **a grade of C or higher** was received in the course.

(6) "Graduate Studies: Minimal Admission and Retention Criteria":

Probationary admission may be granted to students with less than 2.75 average at the discretion of the department. Probationary status students must apply for regular admission after completing four courses in the department. A grade average of 3.0 and **no more than one C** are required for consideration for regular status.

(Inexplicably, I have found no *Governance Manual* reference to the requirement that all students must complete ENGL110 and COMM100 with a grade of "C" or higher.)

In addition to the above references, the Academic Policies Committee may wish to consider recommending a global policy covering all departmental references to letter grade minima (e.g. admission-to-the-major and retention-in-the-major criteria, prerequisites for courses), with exceptions to that policy to be accomplished simply by the department chair's informing the Provost.

The most common interpretations(*) by universities that have adopted intermediate grades seem to be the following:

- (1) references to GPA minima are unchanged.
- (2) references to letter grade minima are redefined as references to letter grade ranges (e.g., "minimum of C" is redefined as "minimum of C-";
- (3) references to letter grade average minima are redefined as QPA minima (e.g., "minimum of C average" is redefined as "minimum of 2.00")

Attachment C

Faculty Senate Minutes

3 December 1996

TO: Millersville University Faculty Senate
FROM: Department of Health and Physical Education
RE: **RESOLUTION FOR EMERITUS STATUS FOR ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR J. RODNEY BIMSON**
DATE: November 11, 1996

J. Rodney Bimson, P.T., Associate Professor in Health and Physical Education
Whereas: retired in May, 1996 after 33 years of teaching, advising, coaching and serving as Head Athletic Trainer at Millersville University; and
Whereas: Associate Professor Bimson served the Health and Physical Education Department on numerous committees, many of which he chaired; and
Professor Bimson initiated several new courses in the department among them
Whereas: Fly Tying and Fly Fishing, Fitness Walking and Medical and Legal Aspects of Coaching; and
Whereas: Professor Bimson served as men's swimming coach from 1963-1965; and served as men's wrestling coach from 1965-1968; and
Whereas: Professor Bimson served as the Head Athletic Trainer from 1963 until 1985; and
Whereas: Professor Bimson recognized the need and initiated the athletic training program to include women's varsity sports; and
Professor Bimson utilized his professional training and his practical experience
Whereas: as a basis for providing sound mentorship for numerous student trainers who now serve as trainers for public schools, colleges and universities; and

Therefore be it resolved: That Associate Professor J. Rodney Bimson be granted the honorary title of Associate Professor of Health and Physical Education Emeritus.

Attachment D

Faculty Senate Minutes

3 December 1996

TO: Millersville University Faculty Senate
FROM: English Department
RE: Resolution for Emeritus Status for Dr. John O'Donnell
DATE: October 9, 1996

Whereas: Dr. John F. O'Donnell, retired in June 1996 after twenty-seven years service to Millersville University in the English Department;

Dr. O'Donnell served as a dedicated and exemplary chair of the English Department for nine years;

Dr. O'Donnell always demonstrated high professional standards in guiding both faculty and students;

Dr. O'Donnell served as an academic advisor to hundreds of students at both the graduate and undergraduate levels;

Dr. O'Donnell served on numerous standing committees within the department, including the stressful and time-consuming Evaluation Committee;

Dr. O'Donnell has been dedicated to improvement of all areas of English Education;

Dr. O'Donnell served on two time-consuming search committees for English Education;

Dr. O'Donnell served as advisor and mentor to all Secondary Education English majors;

Dr. O'Donnell served as a consultant in curriculum and staff development throughout Pennsylvania;

Dr. O'Donnell served as a consultant for the Advanced Placement Program of the College Board and the Educational Testing Service in Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Maryland, and Virginia for twenty years;

Dr. O'Donnell served as a workshop leader for the Pennsylvania Department of Education Curriculum Conference for two years;

Dr. O'Donnell served eight years as a consultant and workshop leader for the Pennsylvania Communication and Reading Plan;

Dr. O'Donnell conducted numerous workshops related to curriculum and instruction in English, especially in the areas of process writing, responding to literature and integrating reading, writing, listening and speaking;

Dr. O'Donnell served on the Lancaster-Lebanon Writing Council--including serving five years as a member of the Council's Executive Committee--

Pennsylvania Council of Teachers of English, National Council of Teachers of English, Conference on English Education, and National Commission on Middle Grades English Language Arts Education;

Dr. O'Donnell delivered numerous presentations on establishing and maintaining Advanced Placement Programs for high schools throughout the northeast;

Dr. O'Donnell served on the Pennsylvania Honors Program Committee to develop standards and examinations for the Pennsylvania Honors Diploma and Pennsylvania Honors Scholarships for three years;

Dr. O'Donnell served on the Pennsylvania Department of Education Reading Assessment Advisory Committee for five years;

Dr. O'Donnell served three years as a member of the National Committee on In-Service Education and Supervision for the Conference on English Education of the National Council of Teachers of English;

Dr. O'Donnell has served four years as a member of the National Commission on Middle Grades English Language Arts Education Council;

Dr. O'Donnell served five years as a member of the Executive Committee of the Lancaster-Lebanon Writing;

Dr. O'Donnell served as a member of APSCUF Negotiations Committee for four years;

Dr. O'Donnell has served on the Board of the First Stage Theater of Lancaster for two years;

Dr. O'Donnell served four years as a member of the Hempfield School Board, chairing three of its major committees;

Dr. O'Donnell served eleven years as Final Judge for the Newspaper-in-Education Week Contest, a program designated to stimulate and improve writing of students, K-12;

Dr. O'Donnell served on the Middle School Steering Committee of the Hempfield School District for five years;

Dr. O'Donnell served eight years as consultant and workshop leader for the Pennsylvania Communication and Reading Plan;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That Dr. John F. O'Donnell be granted the honorary title of Professor of English Emeritus.

Attachment E

Faculty Senate Minutes

3 December 1996

TO: Faculty Senate
FROM: Department of Educational Foundations
SUBJECT: **FACULTY EMERITUS**
DATE: October 3, 1996

The following resolution was unanimously passed at the September 17th business meeting of the Educational Foundations Department:

Whereas Dr. F. Perry Love has faithfully served the students of Millersville University for 29 years as a classroom professor, academic advisor to hundreds of part-time students, Chairperson of the Educational Foundations Department, Interim Dean of the School of Education, Dean of Continuing Education, Director of Summer Sessions, Assistant to the Academic Vice President and Associate Provost, Coordinator of the Wyomissing Project, assistant football coach, and admissions officer; and

Whereas Dr. F. Perry Love has facilitated the development of innovative programmatic ideas such as the Governor's School for Teaching, the revitalization of the Educational Foundations curriculum, and the proposed M.Ed. program in Leadership for Teaching and Learning; and

Whereas Dr. F. Perry Love chaired numerous University committees including the Commencement Committee and the Honors and Awards Committee, and served on numerous other University committees including the Athletic Advisory Committee, the Lancaster Partnership Committee, and the Special Program for the Culturally and Academically Disadvantaged Committee; and

Whereas Dr. F. Perry Love initiated the first Elderhostel Program at the University, the non-credit Community Service Programs, and the first Motorcycle Safe Driver Program; and

Whereas Dr. F. Perry Love coordinated the Aichi (Japan)-Millersville exchange program and the first two summers of a program to admit Culturally and Academically Disadvantaged students to a special summer program; and

Whereas Dr. F. Perry Love shared his educational expertise and served the community as a School Director for fourteen years: as a member and officer for the Penn Manor School Board, the Lancaster-Lebanon Intermediate Unit 13 Board, the Lancaster County Area Vocational-Technical Schools, and the Lancaster County Academy; and

Whereas Dr. F. Perry Love has fulfilled all these roles with an integrity, intelligence and compassion that has earned him the admiration and love of his colleagues and associates,

Therefore, be it resolved that Dr. F. Perry Love be granted the honorary title of Professor of Education Emeritus.

Attachment F

Faculty Senate Minutes

3 December 1996

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS Dr. Gerald S. Weiss has announced his retirement from the Chemistry Department of Millersville University after 30 years of teaching; and

WHEREAS he has inspired both students and faculty through his constant pursuit of high ideals in education; and

WHEREAS he has become the departmental leader in the development and presentation of chemical demonstrations; and

WHEREAS he has served the University as Department Chairman, President of MU-APSCUF, Faculty Senate Chair, and on numerous campus-wide and departmental committees; and

WHEREAS he has been instrumental in developing Chemistry 251, Cooperative Education at Millerville, and the present general education curriculum; and

WHEREAS he has served the community as local section chair of the American Chemical Society; and

WHEREAS he was instrumental in the hiring of 40% of the current faculty in the Chemistry Department;

NOW BE IT RESOLVED that the Chemistry Faculty of Millersville University thank and congratulate Dr. Weiss for his many contributions to the life of the University; and further

BE IT RESOLVED that we remain ever inspired by his endless pursuit of high scholarly achievements; and

BE IT RESOLVED that we wish him much continued success and happiness that his retirement will bring him and his wife, Rebecca, and finally

BE IT RESOLVED that the Faculty in the Chemistry Department unanimously recommend that Dr. Gerald S. Weiss be granted the rank of Professor Emeritus of Chemistry.

Attachment G

Faculty Senate Minutes

3 December 1996

First Responses to Task Force Recommendations by the General Education Review Committee

Having had very little time to read or analyze the recommendations ahead of time, the committee met on Tuesday, November 26, 1996 and came to some informal consensus on the following points, as our initial response:

A. To the Rationale on p. 1: We generally agreed with the task force goals, but some had various reservations:

1. Under the goal of simplification, the task force suggests that some of its recommendations, such as eliminating label requirements, will improve the advising process. Several members of our committee felt it might have precisely the opposite effect by accelerating an already existing tendency to see the advising process as simply a card-signing process, rather than as an opportunity for faculty advisors to explain requirements to students, and assist students in focusing on their own objectives in getting an education.
2. Throughout the report, some saw little evidence that serious cost/benefit analysis had been done to validate any of its claims that its proposals would save money, and that it would do so without negatively impacting educational quality.
3. While the committee found the distinction between Phase 1 and Phase 2 useful, some found puzzling the task force's desire to implement substantive changes during Phase 1, given that some or all of these might be inconsistent with the changes which are certain to follow in the wake of Phase 2. Phase 2 involves a serious revision of the goals and objectives of general education, a task which our committee began almost two years ago, but had to shelve due to other demands which were placed on us since then. It is the committee's belief that these changes should guide the process of reforming general education. For this reason, during Phase 1, our committee mainly supports those recommendations which involve little change from the status quo.

B. Phase 1:

1. After some discussion, it was agreed that #1 and #2 represent small changes and seem relatively unproblematic. The rationale under #1a makes little sense as it stands, and it is assumed that the fourth block is just a gathering together of requirements that don't fit under other blocks, presumably for the purpose of making advising easier? #6 was also seen as a continuation of the present de facto system, and hence as representing only a minor change. However, concern was expressed that it should be understood that this change ought not be construed as one which makes w-courses easier to teach, and consequently, should not serve as an excuse to continue to raise the size of w-classes.

2. Various members of the committee saw serious difficulties with recommendations #3, 4, and 5. All were perceived as major changes which could erode educational quality. In particular:

a. #3 was puzzling, as, if few students have difficulty satisfying this requirement, how will eliminating it make graduation easier or save the university money? The task force also did not discuss the original rationale for requiring C and Q courses. We believe it would be better to consider this issue as part of the Phase 2 process, after we have redefined general education objectives.

b. Apparently, as regards QARC courses, the task force was working on the false assumption that only math and computer science courses count as QARC. Several other departments teach QARC courses, including Geography, Philosophy, and Economics. To discourage other departments from teaching QARC courses would be completely inconsistent with the task force's recommendation under Phase 2, #3, that other departments be encouraged to develop advanced writing courses. In addition, it is difficult to see how making fewer QARC courses available to students will make it easier for them to graduate in a timely fashion, nor how it will save the university money. Again, we recommend this label be reconsidered only as part of the Phase 2 process.

c. Recommendation #5 is questionable on two counts. First, is it likely to save the university money? How many students would actually take only three upper level courses, even if only three were required, given the number of required related courses many students take, plus the four w-course requirement. Second, assuming that a fair number of students do end up taking only three upper-level courses, would this be educationally desirable? After all, requiring only four out of twelve gen ed courses to be above the 100 level is a pretty

weak requirement already. Further, when the present system was instituted, both administrators and faculty agreed that the present requirement would definitely represent a more demanding system that would pay off in educational quality. What evidence does the task force have that this is no longer true? Finally, the assumption that the best place to increase class size in 100-level classes, taken mainly by freshmen, runs contrary to the most recent studies, which suggest that freshman learning and retention are significantly improved by putting them in smaller classes.

C. Phase 2:

The committee is generally sympathetic with the task force's description of this phase, with a couple of exceptions:

1. Several members agreed that as we move towards assessable objectives and goals, we need to remember that not every educational objective will be measurable, and we need to be careful not to lose sight of this.

2. Recommendation #4 under this phase (eliminating the use of labels to designate requirements) might be acceptable as a possibility to be considered during Phase 2, but it would seem foolish at this point to tie the hands of the committee undertaking the Phase 2 process. Perhaps the task force is simply recommending that, during the Phase 2 process, serious attempts be made to find ways of achieving general education objectives, as redefined, without resorting to the cumbersome present system of requiring courses by labels. If so, our committee would not find this recommendation problematic.

3. To avoid confusion, under the **PROPOSED CURRICULUM** on p. 4, it would be best to specify that this is what it would look like at the end of the adoption of Phase 1. After all, we don't know what the curriculum might look like after the Phase 2 process is completed. We would also propose that it explicitly include other requirements, such as the 4 courses per block, two from one department, a lab course, etc., so that it is clear on what exactly we are voting.