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CWU General Education Committee Minutes - 11/01/10

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Central Washington University General Education Committee November 1, 2010 Minutes

Present: Phil Backlund, James Beaghan (phone connection problems), James Bisgard, Cynthia Coe, Toni Čuljak, Duane Dowd, Pamela McMullin-Messier, Sharon Rosell, Tracy Pellet and Sheryl Grunden.

Absent: None

Guests: None

Meeting was convened at 2:19 a.m.

Changes to the Agenda – Toni added General Education and Liberal Learning under Announcements. Phil moved and Jim Bisgard seconded. Changes to agenda were approved.

The October 18, 2010 minutes were approved as amended.

Announcements - None

General Education and Liberal Learning – Committee members were requested to read chapter 3 of the AAUP book on Intentionality. The committee discussed different areas of the book. Cindy expressed concern that nothing concrete will probably happen as long as no one has ownership of the reform process and general education. Phil suggested looking at some of the campuses mentioned in the book enacted reform and who organized it. Dr. Pellett indicated that the current proposal gives some good basics to move forward with. The committee needs to look at what Central does really well, like undergraduate research and learning communities and figure out how to integrate it into general education. Toni suggested that General Education has been a lone orphan and doesn't have its own budget. However, on the flip side there are departments that use general education courses to help with budgets and staffing. Toni indicated that she would like to see the committee come up with a proposal by May and allow departments the opportunity to work on course proposals for a program for Fall 2012. Phil suggested maybe have the program entirely outcome based and not require any specific courses, but courses that meet the outcomes and have students pass tests. Dr. Pellet commented on utilizing a freshman experience as a possible option. Phil talked about making it less course based and more experience based. Cindy asked where the committee should start. Does the committee start with a vision of what we want students to know, or does the committee start with the proposal from last year? Toni suggested the committee start with the learner outcomes. Duane indicated that the outcomes from the current proposal were worked out with the stakeholders and they have given their feedback. The committee discussed other possible ideas. Cindy moved that the committee

review pages 2, 3 and 9 of the General Education & Liberal Learning and compare them with the current proposal for the next meeting discussion. Toni will put together a 2 or 3 column document that will help with this comparison.

Gen Ed courses put on reserve list

ECON 360 & PHIL 209 – Cynthia moved and Duane seconded to remove these courses from the current General Education list. Motion approved.

Basic computing requirement – Committee suggested that students challenge the course through department.

Petitions/appeals (if any) - None

Meeting was adjourned at 3:47 p.m.

Next meeting November 15, 2010