Members Present:
V. Luizzi-Chair Rep
B. Stone-Applied Arts
L. Thomas-Health Professions
T. Hindson-Liberal Arts
V. Sriraman-Science
R. Northcutt-Science
C. McCall-Education
B. Brown-Liberal Arts
F. Blevens-Fine Arts and Comm
T. Mottet-Fine Arts and Comm
J. Fischer-Student Rep
B. Melzer-Health Professions
D. Showalter-Business Admin

Members Absent:
J. Crawford-Chair Rep
D. Perkins-Applied Arts
J. Ross-Business Admin
M. Hamilton-Education

Meeting convened at 3:37 p.m.

Motion:
R. Brown asked for a motion to approve the minutes from March 4th. R. Northcutt so moved. C. McCall seconds the motion. The March 4th minutes are approved as prepared.

Sub-committee action:
The committee carefully discussed all aspects of the proposal submitted by the Department of Geography requesting that Geography 2410 be recommended as a Natural Science component course.

Motion:
A motion was made by B. Stone and seconded by B. Melzer that the sub-committee recommend that the General Education Council disapprove the request from the Department of Geography to include Physical Geography 2410 as a Natural Science component course.
(VOTE: 5 yes, 1 no)

Rationale for vote:
The proposed course does not meet the General Education Council's approved definition as a Natural Science Component course; instead of
providing fundamental information that provides “the knowledge base for a number of applied disciplines…” the information presented in this course appears to be applied and, thus, does not meet the definition of providing the knowledge base on which the other disciplines can make application.

Dr. Luizzi, speaking for the minority view of the sub-committee, brought out that the Council has already extended the definition of a natural science to include Astronomy and Physical Anthropology. These courses create a likeness class of which Geography 2410 is reasonably a member.

Discussion:
• Are both Anthropology and Geography applied?
• Looks like an applied science and we close the door—when under review it is a basis for action already taken
• Geography brought documents to the sub-committees attention with the updated information we requested and letter of purpose in favor of including Geo 2410 as a natural science
• Being an applied science does not meet the approved definition and we shouldn’t compound the problem by accepting more that do not meet the definition
• When other natural science courses are under review then action can be taken for those that do not meet the definition
• When we looked at it before it did not meet the definition and is not a foundation course—I believe the council shouldn’t have approved Anthropology, but two wrongs don’t make a right
• We will go back and re-review Anthropology and Physics after one year
• Review the content of all the science courses and decide what all information we want to review
• We could have them do the form (natural science component table) for all courses
• Look at definition
• Dr. Passty finds the proposal “reasonable”
• Take into account the impact this course will have on other natural sciences and give those departments the opportunity to come forward to make comments
• It is part of the Council members responsibility to take the information back to your college
• The inconsistency of the subcommittee was to go back and redo others that might not meet the definition
• There has been no growth so far as to what people are taking in those approved (Anth and Phys)
• A number of majors specify certain courses

Motion passes 10 for and 3 opposed.

Motion:
B. Stone recommends reviewing the syllabi for natural science, mathematics and fine arts from each department. We will give them a statement of the definition and the natural science table-format to fill out. The Council will review each to see if they still meet the definition.

R. Northcutt seconds the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 4:52 p.m.