

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GENERAL COLLEGE COMMITTEE

Received

JUL - 2 1985

I. Date: June 30, 1985
To: Dr. James LeRoy Smith, Chairman of the Faculty Senate
From: Herb Carlton, 1984-85 Chairman of the General College Committee

FACULTY SENATE

II. Members of the Committee:

Ex-officio:

Dr. Donald Bailey, Dean of the General College
Dr. Elmer Meyer, Vice Chancellor for Student Life
Mrs. Myra Cain, Representative of the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
Dr. James LeRoy Smith, Chairman of the Faculty Senate

Faculty:

Dr. Margaret Capen, School of Business (vice chair)
Mr. Herb Carlton, Political Science Department (chair)
Dr. Robert Christian, Biology Department (secretary)
Dr. Charles Garrison, Department of Sociology/Anthropology/Economics
Mr. Ted Gartman, School of Allied Health
Dr. Donald Neal, Geology Department
Dr. Gregory Ross, Philosophy Department

Student:

Miss Jennifer Jendrasiak, Student Government Association

III. Committee Meeting Dates and Faculty Members Absent:

August 21, 1984	(Carlton, Ross)
November 14, 1984	(Garrison, Ross)
January 16, 1985	(Gartman, Ross)
February 20, 1985	(Capen, Gartman, Ross)
March 20, 1985	(Gartman, Neal, Ross)
April 17, 1985	(Garrison, Ross)

IV. Dates of Reports to the Faculty Senate During the Year:

None

V. Specific Instructions Given to the Committee by the Faculty Senate Other Than Those Found in the Committee's Organizational Charge:

Faculty Chairman Jim Smith's letter of March 1, 1985, regarding a proposed modification of the change-of-major process. (See attached copy. See also paragraph VII-B below.)

VI. A Brief Statement of Committee Organization, Subcommittees, Research Agencies Other Than the Faculty Senate:

At its November 14 meeting, the committee compiled a thirteen item list of matters which might be considered. At its January 16 meeting, several of these items were discarded while priority items were assigned to individual members, rather than to subcommittees, for more detailed investigation. During the committee's February, March, and April meetings, these matters were presented, discussed, and acted upon. (See attached committee minutes. See also paragraph VII below.)

VII. List of Committee Accomplishments Including Recommendations Made to Agencies Other Than the Faculty Senate:

- A. Item: An investigation of the status of students who have acquired more than 60 credit hours but who remain in General College either because they have not or, for academic reasons, cannot change major to a degree-granting A&S department or professional school. (See attached copy of Dr. Neal's recommendation.)
Action: While the committee generally concurred with Dr. Neal's proposal, it was decided that no new stipulations should be formulated until the new "on-line" registration process has been well-established and the matter described in paragraph VII-B below has been determined. This matter will be carried over to 1985-86.
- B. Item: A request from Faculty Chairman Jim Smith suggesting that the committee take a position on allowing General College students to declare a major prior to completion of the existing requirements for exit from the General College. (See attached copy, dated March 1. See also pages 74-75 of the 1984-86 ECU Undergraduate Catalogue for existing requirements.)
Action: While concurring with the gist of the suggestion, the committee concluded that the various professional schools and A&S departments must first be given an opportunity to compose any changes they find pertinent as to their respective entrance requirements before the committee can make an appropriate determination as to a student's exit from General College. Our suggestion is that each school and department specify, in writing, the standards/conditions/requirements under which majors will be accepted and this information be made a part of the ECU Undergraduate Catalogue, General College Manual, etc., by academic year 1986-87. With too little time remaining in the spring 1985 term to complete this project, we regard it as a worthwhile project for next year's committee. We would encourage completion of same prior to the publication of the next Undergraduate Catalogue.
- C. Item: An informal and open-ended exchange of information and views between several members of the Residence Life staff (Dean Carolyn Fulghum, Ms. Laura Sweet, Mr. Don Joyner) and the committee regarding the relationship between (a) academic advising by General College faculty advisors plus Dean Bailey's staff and (b) student counseling by residence hall staff and other Student Life personnel.
Action: While no formal action was called for, several techniques for improved communication, referral arrangements, better teamwork, and mutual respect are anticipated as a result of our March 20 session. (See March 20 minutes.)
- D. Item: The call for a late August luncheon or similar social function combined with an orientation for all newly-appointed General College faculty advisors. The purpose of Vice Chancellor Meyer's suggestion would be to give Dean Bailey's staff plus selected Student Life staff members (e.g., Counseling Center, Orientation and Judiciary) an opportunity to provide advisors with a training session regarding their duties.
Action: Vice Chancellor Meyer is negotiating the budget factor with Vice Chancellors Volpe and Moore in preparation for the first such orientation and social session. The committee finds great merit in this approach to improving the quality of advising and hopes this will become an annual affair.

E. Item: Suggestions regarding minor changes in the General Education curriculum. (See pages 71-72, 1984-86 ECU Undergraduate Catalogue for current listing.) The committee has spent a considerable portion of its time and effort, in recent years, trying to "fine tune" those course requirements which apply to all baccalaureate programs. There is a strong concensus that the current requirements are generally sound, but that improvements could -- and should -- be made. We believe that the recommendations made in 1982-3 for strengthening the mathematics and humanities requirements were academically desirable and financially feasible. We remain disappointed that the proposals of 1982-3 were never enacted. This year's recommendations relate to six much smaller, largely editorial changes.

Action: Six recommendations regarding the General Education requirements were approved at our April 17 meeting. We request that each of the six be considered on its individual merits rather than being regarded as one package to be collectively approved or disapproved. Recommendations are being forwarded to the Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee since the three which are a bit more than editorial involve the various departments represented on that committee.

1. A change in the statement of the Science requirements. Currently, Social Science, Humanities, and Fine Arts majors must meet the General Education requirements outside their major fields of study. Other requirements are listed in such a manner that this same stipulation applies to all other students except those majoring in the Sciences. While most Science degree programs cognate other Science disciplines, it is not uniformly so. We recommend that the following statement be inserted: "Science majors must meet the requirements outside their major fields." This is the same statement used in the Social Sciences and Humanities and Fine Arts headings.
2. A change in the status of Broadcasting courses. Broadcasting courses are now separated from Speech courses and have their own separate prefix, BCST. With the new Communications degree being structured as it is, we believe that Broadcasting should be given the same status as Journalism (JOUR). Journalism is, understandably, not listed as a "Fine Arts" subject area. We recommend that Broadcasting (BCST) not be listed as a Fine Arts area within the General Education curriculum.
3. A change in the credit hours required in the Social Sciences. In the transition from quarter system to semester system, the Social Science credits were set at 13 semester hours. We find this to be an awkward total in that the thirteenth hour, in practice, requires students to take an additional subject. We regard 12 credit hours (four courses) as a more logical and equitable figure and recommend a reduction in the Social Sciences requirement to that number.
4. An editorial change. Currently, the General Education requirements listing concludes with the following statement: "Certain interdisciplinary courses may be used to satisfy certain general education requirements." We recommend the following as its replacement: "See The Honors Program, pages 79-80, and Area Studies, International, and Interdisciplinary Programs, pages 82-89, for additional General College course offerings." (Page numbers refer to the 1984-86 Catalogue.) We suggest that this statement be indicated as a footnote for three General Education headings; Sciences, Social Sciences, and Humanities and Fine Arts.

5. An editorial change. We recommend that the following statement, which currently appears under the Humanities and Fine Arts heading, be relegated to footnote status: "See Departments of English and Foreign Languages for courses in translation."
6. An editorial change. We suggest that the location of footnotes within the statement of the Mathematics requirement be moved to the end of the statement.

If all six modifications are approved, the General Education requirements would appear in the future in a manner similar to the attached version.

- F. Item: Numerous "housekeeping" matters were discussed, none of which required action by any organization other than the committee and the General College staff.

VIII. Citation of the Senate Resolution Numbers That Originated With the Committee:
None

IX. Proposals and/or Business to be Carried Over to Next Year:
See VII-A and VII-B above.

X. Evaluation of the Committee:

Committee members were not given an opportunity to express their opinions on this matter. Perhaps we should have held one more meeting, with paragraphs X and XI as the basic agenda. The 1985-86 committee may wish to consider X and XI as a prelude to its work in the upcoming academic year.

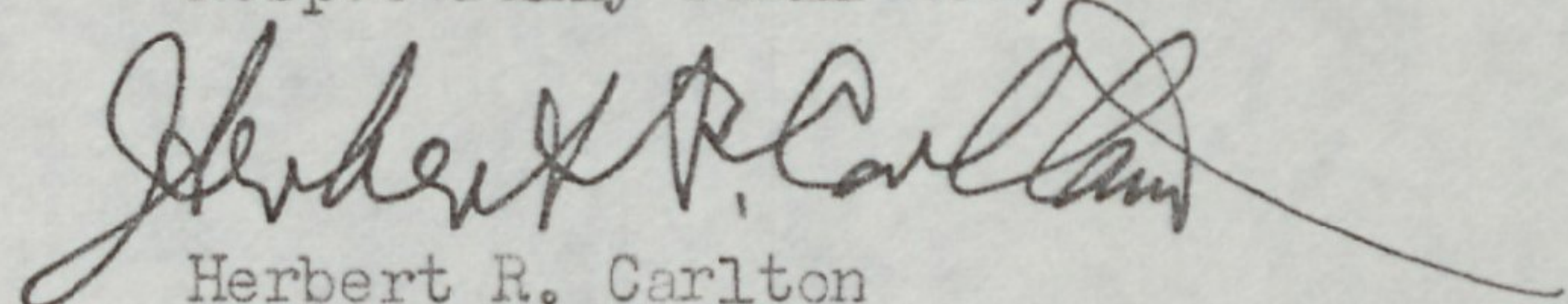
XI. Suggestions for Improving the Effectiveness of the Committee:

As stated above, members were not given an opportunity for this. The chairman takes full responsibility for the committee's slow start during the fall 1984 semester. Having missed the organizational meeting in August, due to his role in the registration process at that hour, he was not aware that he had been railroaded into the chairmanship until early October.

XII. Miscellaneous:

We would like for anyone reviewing this annual report to read the attached letter from the committee to Vice Chancellor Volpe. It expresses our appreciation to Dean Bailey and his fine staff for a job well done.

Respectfully submitted,



Herbert R. Carlton
Committee Chairman for 1984-5