

CITE 500

Senate Committee on Educational Policy
October 25, 1985

Members: Mary Young, Brenda Ellingboe, David Lutz, Lawrence Goodman, Susan Collison, William Hanson, John Wallace, Thomas Daniels, W. Andrew Collins, Marvin Mattson, Sheila Corcoran, (Van Gooch and Kathy Ebnet via phone)

Guests: Terence Collins, Evelyn Hansen, Jeanne Lupton, K. Darcy Hanzlik, Sandra Flake, Dan Detzner

Minutes: The minutes were approved as circulated.

Announcements: An Administrative Fellow will be hired to assist SCEP one-quarter time.

General College: The remainder of the meeting was devoted to a discussion of the recommendations Commitment to Focus makes for the future of General College and of General College's response.

The following points were made by Dean Lupton and others from General College:

1. General College provides both access and enables students to progress as far as possible.
2. Diversity of needs must be met.
3. General College has been active in research. It can now become a center of research on higher education for nontraditional students, addressing questions about how people learn, etc.

Dean Lupton expressed General College's basic concern that programs relating to retention of different and difficult students are available nowhere else in the university or in the state. Resources must flow to this, and there should be a task force to study the needs of this special group of students.

A question period followed.

Mary Young asked what percentage of General College students transfer to other units of the University of Minnesota? Dean Lupton estimated 600-700.

William Hanson asked how General College students are different from other nontraditional students at the University. Dan Detzner explained that the B.A. degrees in General College were designed to provide students with general education, depth, and the likelihood of prompt employment. The B.A. in general studies concentrates on breadth. It provides thematic capstone courses, and its courses are taught by faculty who have much experience teaching nontraditional students.

Dean Lupton added that the students in these programs could go to Metro State, but they don't want to go there.

Lawrence Goodman asked if entrance standards go up at the University, as is presently being considered, won't there be many students who will be able to get through General College only? Evelyn Hansen said, yes, and a substantive curriculum is necessary to meet the needs of those students.

Professor Goodman asked how many varsity athletes are involved?
Dean Lupton replied 125--about 50% of male varsity athletes.

Terry Collins pointed out that General College enrolls 25% of minority students.

Giving degrees is not our primary mission, Dean Lupton reminded. She noted, however, that faculty tenure must be in a "degree-granting unit." If Proposition 48 of the NCAA is passed, there will be requirements for athletes.

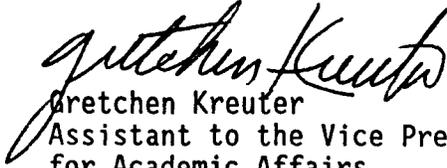
Marvin Mattson urged that SCEP ask the Senate to address these issues raised.

Dean Lupton noted that General College is on hold with respect to new students. She concluded by noting that General College knows the University of Minnesota must relate to the other higher education systems in the state and that General College must change. All the issues need to be considered.

Next Meeting: It was the consensus of the committee that SCEP should meet next Friday and consider appropriate actions to take with respect to the General College proposals.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Gretchen Kreuter
Assistant to the Vice President
for Academic Affairs

GK:alp