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General Education Council

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### November 5, 2009 General Studies Council Minutes

University of Nebraska at Kearney General Studies Council

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**General Studies Council Minutes**  
**November 5, 2009 Meeting – 3:30 p.m.**  
**Founders Hall, Warner Conference Room**  
**Approved via email 12/7/09**

**Present:** Vijay Agrawal, Sylvia Asay, Debbie Bridges, Mary Daake, Tommy Eshleman, Sherri Harms, Daryl Kelley, Sonja Kropp, Carol Lilly, Kristi Milks, Darleen Mitchell, Janet Moore, Marta Moorman, Kim Schipporeit, Daren Snider, Ron Wirtz

**Absent:** Jeanne Butler, Tommy Hansen, Ralph Hanson

**Guests:** Marth Kruse, Ken Trantham

**I. Call to Order:**

Director Snider called the meeting to order at 3:35pm. The open agenda items were moved to the top of the agenda without objection.

**II. New Business:**

**a. Proposed Portal and Capstone Course Catalog Descriptions:**

The Council approved the following proposed course descriptions to be sent to faculty for input.

**UNK 188 - General Studies Portal.....3 hours**

The Portal is a thematically based course intended to engage students in the process of critical thinking, an inherent component of the academic experience. Students analyze critical issues confronting the individual and society within a global context. Students may take the Portal course in any discipline, irrespective of their major or minor. Open only to freshmen and sophomores.

**UNK 388 - General Studies Capstone.....3 hours**

The Capstone is an interdisciplinary experience that culminates the student's General Studies program. Learners apply the knowledge, cognitive abilities, and communication skills they have gained from General Studies in designing and completing an original paper or project. Students may take the Capstone course in any discipline, irrespective of their major or minor. Open to juniors and seniors, and to those students who are within 6 credit hours of completing their General Studies program.

**b. Natural and Social Sciences Input on New General Studies Program:**

The College of Natural and Social Sciences submitted proposed changes to the General Studies Learning Outcomes. After considerable discussion Mitchell (Wirtz) moved not to accept the proposed changes. Motion carried with Harms abstaining.

**III. Open Items:**

**a. Business and Technology Input on New General Studies Program:**

The Council discussed this input, but due to the late hour and the desire to give the input careful consideration, Moore (Kropp) moved to table until the December meeting. Motion carried.

**b. Approval of Courses for New General Studies Program:**

There are 180 proposed courses in the new General Studies Program. Of those 180, 76 are GS courses to continue in the new program, 77 are new to UNK (66 of which are portals) and 22 are existing UNK courses not currently in GS.

**IV. Other:**

Special Session to consider course proposals will be Thursday, November 12, 2009 in the Warner Conference Room.

**VI. Adjournment:**

Meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

**NEXT SPECIAL MEETING:** Thursday, November 12, 2009 at 4:00-8:00, Warner Conference Room.

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING:** Thursday, December 3, 2009 at 3:30 p.m., Warner Conference Room.