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# Minutes of the Forum Meeting of Wednesday, January 27, 2010

Chairperson Mark Tapsak called the meeting to order on January 27, 2010, at 3 PM in the Multipurpose-A Room, Kehr Union.

Present: Gia Adornetto, George Agbango, Richard Baker, Jonathan Lincoln (in for Ira Blake), Jeffrey Brunskill, Drue Coles, Marilee Salvator (in for Ilenia Colon-Mendoza), Marie Danenhower, Mark Decker, Vincent Diloretto, Jean Downing, Jim Hollister (in for Erik Evans), Naz Fallahian, Ralph Feather, Richard Ganahl, Jimmy Gilliland, W. R. Harrar, Marilou Hinchcliff, Elena Litvinova, Jeff Long, Joneen Lowman, Wayne Mohr, John Morgan, Srinivas Nowduri, William Obiozor, Gretchen Osterman, Konstantinos Patsiopoulos, Timothy Phillips, Jennifer Raup, Clay Corbin (in for Steven Rier), John Riley (in for Toni Trumbo-Bell), Richard Rugen, Deb Sanders, Safa Saraçoğlu, Tracey Schmidt, Brenda Cromley (in for David Soltz), Luke Springman, Mark Tapsak, Noah Wasielewski, and Yang Xia.

**Guests who signed in**: Bill Barnes, Julie Kontos, Robert Marande, Jaime North, Virginia Rinkus, Alison Stone-Briggs, and Caryn Terwilliger.

# 1. Approval of January 27, 2010 Agenda

Motion to approve the Agenda made by George Agbango; seconded by Gretchen Osterman. The motion to approve the Agenda was approved by voice vote.

# 2. Approval of November 11, 2009 Minutes

Richard Baker moved that the Minutes be approved; seconded by William Obiozor. The motion to approve the Minutes was approved by voice vote.

#### 3. Announcements

There were no announcements.

### 4. Reports by Standing Committees:

### a. BUCC

John Riley, reporting for Toni Trumbo-Bell, reported that BUCC met on January 20. They approved a Group C requirement for Management majors. They also approved a number of proposals for the restructuring of the Communication Studies major and minor programs. They approved PRP 3230, Course and Program Development. This policy provides helpful information for those preparing proposals. They reviewed several other policies as first readings.

### **b.** General Administration Committee

Vince Diloretto stated that this committee has not met recently. They have several policies that are on today's agenda for second readings.

### c. Planning and Budget

Stephen Kokoska reported that this committee will meet tomorrow and will have an enrollment management report, a report on enrollment, and a strategic plan update.

# d. Student Life

Jen Raup reported that this committee met yesterday. They are finishing revisions to the judicial policy in preparation for presentation to the Secretariat. They provided feedback to Toni Trumbo-Bell, BUCC Chair, on a number of policies, including Ws, WFs, and WPs.

### e. General Education Task Force

John Riley reported that the Task Force will again be meeting weekly this semester. They plan on presenting the results of their work to BUCC by mid-semester. The members appreciated the feedback that they have received from the campus community.

# **f.** PeopleSoft Student Information System

Wayne Mohr presented information on the progress of the proposed integrated Student Information System (ISIS) by PeopleSoft. They are currently on time and under budget. They are in the last weeks of the business process workshops and there are few gaps with the West Chester template. They are pleased with the consultants and have a good collaboration with the other institutions.

### 5. Policies

- a. PRP 5361 Financial Obligations Policy
- b. PRP 5210 Red Flag Identity Theft Prevention Program

### c. PRP proposed – Applicant Background Investigation Policy

No revisions were made from the first readings to PRP 5361 or PRP 5210. A second paragraph was added to the new policy. Members discussed changes to the proposed new Applicant Background Investigation Policy in order to make the policy consistent. Suggestions included using "President or designee" throughout the policy.

Motion made by George Agbango, seconded by Ralph Feather, to endorse PRP 5361, Financial Obligations Policy, to endorse PRP 5210, Red Flag Identity Theft Prevention Program, and to table PRP proposed, Applicant Background Investigation Policy. Motion approved by voice vote.

# 6. Webpage Update

Bill Barnes provided an update on the webpage redesign. He reviewed the goals and support for recruitment, retention, and engagement. On February 8, Phase I will be in place. Additional phases will take place throughout the year.

# 7. University Strategic Plan

Robert Marande presented information regarding the strategic planning process and the formation of the Strategic Planning and Resource Council (SPARC). This Council has prepared draft statements of Mission, Vision, and Value for Bloomsburg University. Members discussed and provided feedback on the three statements. In addition, he provided information about their website that includes a link for members to provide additional feedback.

### 8. Open Forum

There were no items.

### 9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:20 PM by consensus.

# Minutes of the Forum Meeting of Wednesday, March 24, 2010

Acting Chairperson Mark Decker called the meeting to order on March 24, 2010, at 3:05 PM in the Multipurpose-A Room, Kehr Union.

Present: David Abrams, Gia Adornetto, George Agbango, Richard Baker, Drue Coles, Marie Danenhower, Mark Decker, Vincent Diloretto, Jean Downing, Naz Fallahian, Ralph Feather, Richard Ganahl, Jimmy Gilliland, W. R. Harrar, Marilou Hinchcliff, Shane Jaynes, Elena Litvinova, Jeff Long, Shawn Makar, Wayne Mohr, John Morgan, William Obiozor, Margaret O'Connor, Jonathon Ohn, Gretchen Osterman, Konstantino Patsiopoulos, Timothy Phillips, Conrad Quintyn, Jennifer Raup, Steven Rier, Marilee Salvator, Deb Sanders, Tracey Schmidt, Brenda Cromley (in for David Soltz), Barbara Stiner, Melissa Taylor, Yang Xia, and Noah Wasielewski.

Guests who signed in: Julie Kontos, John Riley, and Jamie North.

# 1. Approval of March 24, 2010 Agenda

Motion to approve the Agenda made by Vince Diloretto; seconded by Gia Adornetto. The Agenda was approved.

### 2. Approval of February 24, 2010 Minutes

George Agbango moved that the Minutes be approved; seconded by Gia Adornetto. The motion to approve the Minutes as corrected was approved by voice vote.

### 3. Announcements

There were no announcements.

# 4. Reports by Standing Committees:

### a. BUCC

John Riley reported that BUCC met last Wednesday (March 17) as their open meeting. Low enrollment programs as defined by the state system were discussed. The Proposed Goals for General Education Student Learning Outcomes from the General Education Task Force were reviewed.

### **b.** General Administration Committee

Vince Diloretto stated that this committee will meet March 5. They have two policies on today's Agenda.

### c. Planning and Budget

Ira Blake reported that this committee met and discussed enrollment, budget adjustments, ISIS, and the Desire to Learn program. At their next meeting, they will review budget adjustments, enrollment projections, and the strategic plan.

### d. Student Life

Jen Raup reported that this committee has PRP 4842, Judicial Policy, on today's Agenda for a second reading. They have not met as they currently have no other student life issues. She invited any one with student life issues to forward them to her. They plan on future discussions with BUCC representatives regarding their student behavior policy.

### e. General Education Task Force

John Riley reported that the Task Force presented the Proposed Goals for General Education Student Learning Outcomes to BUCC for an initial review. The BUCC will vote on these proposals at their next meeting.

# f. PeopleSoft Student Information System

Wayne Mohr presented information on the progress of the proposed integrated Student Information System (ISIS) by PeopleSoft. They are currently on schedule and the project is doing well. They will finalize project management documentation and system testing schedules, including user testing.

#### 5. Policies

# a. PRP 4842 - Judicial Policy, Second Reading

Motion to endorse PRP 4842, Judicial Policy, made by Vince Diloretto; seconded by Barbara Stiner. **Motion approved by voice vote.** 

# b. PRP Proposed – Acceptable Use Policy, First Reading

Vince Diloretto explained that this was PRP 3700 and is now being proposed for everyone, not just those in the academic area. The policy language has been approved by PASSHE. George Agbango suggested the following revision to the last line of the policy-Violators of this policy also risk-prosecution under applicable local, state or federal laws. Wayne Mohr felt that it should stand as it is as the suggested changes would not make any difference in the policy.

# c. PRP 5205 – Severe Weather Policy, First Reading

Vince Diloretto reported that they reviewed this policy as requested, and they support the policy as stated. The only thing they changed was the class schedule. After discussion, he will check with the Registrar's office to provide a more complete class listing. He stated that representatives for the support staff felt that this is a fair and equitable policy. Members discussed essential and nonessential staff, severe and extreme weather conditions, and asked for clarification on how determinations are made for canceling classes or closing the university.

#### 6. The BIG EVENT

Gia Adornetto explained the Big Event as a community service project with over 500 student volunteers that will take place this Saturday. Volunteers will meet in the morning for breakfast, provided with tools, and bused to places in the area to provide needed help.

### **Open Forum**

Ralph Feather asked if a path could be built on the opposite side of the road behind McCormick so that students do not walk or jog along the main road. He suggested educating students on this dangerous situation. Jeff Long stated that a student overpass will be built to help with safety in this area.

### 7. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Richard Baker; seconded by Gretchen Osterman. The meeting adjourned at 3:54 PM by consensus.

### Minutes of the Forum Meeting of Wednesday, April 21, 2010

Chairperson Mark Tapsak called the meeting to order on April 21, 2010, at 3 PM in the Multipurpose-A Room, Kehr Union.

Present: George Agbango, Anikka Brill, Richard Baker, Drue Coles, Mark Decker, Vincent Diloretto, Jean Downing, Naz Fallahian, Ralph Feather, Richard Ganahl, Jimmy Gilliland, W. R. Harrar, Marilou Hinchcliff, Shane Jaynes, Elena Litvinova, Jeff Long, Wayne Mohr, Margaret O'Connor, Jonathon Ohn, Gretchen Osterman, Steven Rier, Richard Rugen, Marilee Salvator, Tracey Schmidt, Deb Sanders, Safa Saraçoğlu, Brenda Cromley (in for David Soltz), Barbara Stiner, Mark Tapsak, Noah Wasielewski, and Yang Xia.

Guests who signed in: Larry Fritz, John Riley, and Gini Rinkus.

# 1. Approval of April 21, 2010 Agenda

Motion to approve the Agenda made by Gretchen Osterman; seconded by Wayne Mohr. The Agenda was approved by hand vote.

# 2. Approval of March 24, 2010 Minutes

Vince Diloretto moved that the Minutes be approved; seconded by Richard Baker. The Minutes were approved by hand vote.

#### 3. Announcements

There were no announcements.

# 4. Reports by Standing Committees:

### a. BUCC

John Riley reported that BUCC has met several times. They approved a number of proposals, including a Minor in Dance. Jonathan Lincoln gave a presentation on placement testing. They approved PRP 3810, Admission, Monitoring and Exit Procedures for Teacher Education Initial Certification Programs.

### **b.** General Administration Committee

Vince Diloretto stated that this committee has not met as they have no new items. They have two policies on today's Agenda.

### **c.** Planning and Budget

Stephen Kokoska reported that this committee met on April 1 and had subcommittee reports. The Budget Subcommittee is reviewing its charge. They approved four room changes for Space and Facilities. Wayne Mohr reported on ISIS and BOLT. Chris Keller provided enrollment projections showing a slight yield increase. Larry Fritz gave an update on SPARC. Jonathan Lincoln discussed proposed budget changes, the intended use of academic enhancement funds, and placement exams for incoming freshmen. They will ask Deans and Vice Presidents to attend a meeting and discuss past and future goals.

### **d.** Student Life

Jeff Long reported that this committee has not met.

# e. General Education Task Force

John Riley reported that the Task Force has distributed a survey to faculty. This survey will provide important feedback from faculty regarding general education courses. The task force the summer.

# f. PeopleSoft Student Information System

Wayne Mohr reported on the progress of the proposed integrated Student Information System (ISIS) by PeopleSoft. They are currently on schedule and the project is doing well. They are in the process of getting the new portal up and running.

# 5. Policies

# a. PRP 3700 - Acceptable Use Policy, Second Reading

Vince Diloretto reported that no changes were made to this policy since the first reading. Motion to endorse PRP 3700 Acceptable Use Policy made by Richard Baker; seconded by Marilou Hinchcliff. **Motion approved by hand vote.** 

# b. PRP 5205 – Severe Weather Policy, Second Reading

Vince Diloretto reported that they revised the class schedule in this policy after meeting with the Registrar. They added a note that pertains to classes that meet one time a week. Motion to endorse PRP 5205 Severe Weather Policy made by Ralph Feather; seconded by Wayne Mohr. **Motion approved by hand vote.** 

### 6. SPARC – Directions and Initiative

Robert Marande and Stephen Kokoska provided an update on the Strategic Planning and Resource Council (SPARC). They identified four key strategic issues: Enhancing academic excellence; providing quality in a challenging fiscal environment; designing an enrollment vision in terms of capacity, demand and program mix; and developing and fostering a strong sense of community. They discussed the directions and initiatives for each strategic issue. They invited members to view their website to review these statements and to take advantage of the email link to provide them with feedback.

In response to a question, Ira Blake explained that it is not true that funding for Living and Learning Communities (LLC) would be cut. They are looking at adjustments to meet our vision and budgetary concerns. She explained that the LLCs are a manageable model that can be expanded. She asked members to provide her with their input and comments.

Ira Blake noted that the SPARC report was reflective of the potential of this university. She thanked the committee for their work and progress within a very short time frame.

### 7. Open Forum

Ira Blake thanked the Forum Chair and the members for their participation.

Members were in agreement that they would like Star Bucks Café to be open over the summer months and discussed their options.

Richard Rugen reported that he has reinstituted the rescinded smoking policy. This action will deter smoking on the quad while they are working on a new policy. Vince Diloretto is working with building managers to identify acceptable smoking areas.

Ralph Feather described the dangerous practice of students crossing Lightstreet Road. Richard Rugen stated that they are working on a solution.

### 8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:54 PM by consensus.

# Minutes of the Forum Meeting of Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Chairperson, Mark Tapsak, called the meeting to order on September 29, 2010, at 3 PM in the Multipurpose-B Room, Kehr Union.

**Present**: Conrad Quintyn, Joan Bradbury for Anikka Brill, Walter Zilz, Noah Wasielewski, Jonathon Ohn, Jeffrey Brunskill, Safa Saraçoğlu, Timothy Phillips, Luke Springman, Yang Xia, Drue Coles, Naz Fallahian, Kevin Ball, Jean Downing, Matt Feldstein, Michael Gerber, Richard Wayne Mohr, Steven Rier, Vincent Diloretto, Marilou Hinchcliff, Tracey Schmidt, Gretchen Osterman, Jimmy Gilliland, Shane Jaynes, Jennifer Raup

**Guests who signed in**: Julie Kontos, Robert Marande, John Riley, Belinda DeLeon, John Bieryla, and Jaime North.

# 1. Approval of September 29, 2010 Agenda

Motion to approve the Agenda made by Toni Bell; seconded by Anna Turnage. The motion was approved by voice vote.

### 2. Approval of April 21, 2010 Minutes

Gretchen Osterman moved that the Minutes be approved; seconded by Vince Diloretto. The motion was approved by voice vote.

#### 3. Announcements

Mark Tapsak announced that at the Secretariat meeting on September 20, 2010, there was discussion on the number of Forum meetings per semester. The Governance document states we must meet a minimum of two meetings per semester with additional meeting dates as deemed necessary. Forum will meet November 10<sup>th</sup>, February 23<sup>rd</sup> and April 20<sup>th</sup>. We will leave the remaining dates as listed on the Master Meeting Schedule should we need them.

### 4. Election of Forum Chair

Forum chair position is only a one-year position staffed by a faculty member. Faculty delegates are two-year terms and staff positions are one-year. Mark opened the floor to nominations of Forum Chair. Toni Bell nominated Mark Tapsak as Chair; seconded by Tim Phillips. A motion was made to close nominations; seconded by Gretchen Osterman. There were no other nominations. The motion to approve Mark Tapsak as Forum Chair was approved by voice vote.

### 5. Reports by Standing Committees

### a. BUCC

Toni Bell, Chair of the BUCC, reported that at the September 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting, the 2011/2012 Academic Calendar was approved based on the PASSHE common calendar.

BUCC will move on the 2012/2013 calendar soon. BUCC recommended approval for a change in a Minor in Statistics, credit reduction for a practicum in Exercise Science, change of elective required for Current Issues in Exercise Science, and a dual list course in Exercise Science. They started the review of a new PRP – Student Disruptive Behavior Policy.

Second reading will occur at the next BUCC meeting. Toni encourages everyone on campus to review the proposed Student Disruptive Behavior Policy. There will be a second reading

at the next BUCC meeting which means it will probably go for vote. BUCC is currently in favor of passing this policy. They started a first reading on PRP 3522 – Grades, Quality Points and Quality Point Averages. BUCC is looking at a Withdrawal/Pass - Withdrawal/Fail option. Also, PRP 3462 - Undergraduate Course Withdrawal will be a second reading enacting a 72-hour waiting period before withdraw is processed to give faculty time to notify students of any problems with withdrawing, i.e. falling below 12 credits. General Education will be discussed at the next BUCC meeting.

### **b.** General Administration Committee

Vince Diloretto reported the General Administration has not met yet.

### c. Planning and Budget

Dr. Blake reported at the last Planning and Budget meeting, they reviewed the budget, general education, orientation and its relationship to helping students transition into the University and a report on the Academic Enhancement Funds.

### d. Student Life

Jen Raup explained that Student Life has not met yet. They are waiting for the faculty elections to take place. Jen attended the last BUCC meeting to explain the Student Conduct Code in comparison to the proposed PRP – Student Disruptive Behavior.

### **6.** State of the University Addresses

# a. University

Dr. Blake reported on behalf of Dr. Soltz. Dr. Blake addressed current state of affairs under which the University is operating. Dr. Blake addressed three major points; 1. Financial times are different. There is a shrinkage of available public dollars; resulting in a closer examination of the budgets of public colleges and universities. This is also a contract negotiating year for six collective bargaining agreements. 2. Scrutiny of institutional operations, academic programming, strategic planning and assessment by accrediting bodies. Middle States has taken a tougher stance. 3. Bloomsburg University. According to the System Accountability Report from the Chancellor, BU scored high in retention, graduation rates, degrees awarded, diversity of student population and faculty qualifications. We were low in undergraduate/graduate instructional cost, Community College transfers, distant education, diversity among faculty, staff and administrators.

### b. CGA

Joan Bradbury, VP of CGA explained that CGA is the student governing board at Bloomsburg, comprised of an Executive Board and Senate. They oversee more than 250 student organizations on campus, hold seats on approximately 20 University wide committees, and support Program Board and Student Activities. CGA is the link between students and faculty/staff at the University. The Big Event will be held this Spring again. BU had the largest student involvement out of the PASSHE schools. The Senate and Exec Board will attempt to be more present at events they support not just in funding but in appearance.

# c. SCUPA

Gretchen Osterman, SCUPA president reported this Union represents administrators on Campus. This is a negotiation year; negotiations have already begun.

### d. AFSCME

Unrepresented

# e. APSCUF

Steve Kokoska, APSCUF President, welcomed everyone. He reported on three area affecting faculty this year; students have choices, outcomes assessment and teach by example.

### 7. Presentation of the General Education Proposal

John Riley addressed the Forum on the proposed General Education Policy. Middle States has found our current General Education inadequate. In the new proposed General Education, Group A, B & C will be replaced by GEU's or General Education Units. GEUs can be earned through successful completion of approved coursework. Goals will be front and center and constantly assessed. We are using a set of rubrics developed by the American Association of Colleges and Universities. Goals are divided into three categories: Foundations, Knowledge and Application. A minimum of 135 GEUs is required for graduation. Courses for goals 1 to 6 (in Foundations and Knowledge) must come from at least two disciplines. Co-curricular experiences: Co-curricular learning experiences do not generate credit hours toward graduation, they may, if approved, generate GEU's. Cocurricular learning experiences that generate GEUs must follow the same assessment as GEU's. There will be a General Education Council similar to the Grad Council. General Education Council or GEC will be comprised of 10 faculty members, 2 from each college; 1 from the Library; 1 at large; 2 students; 1 student affairs representation; Director of Planning and Assessment, and the Dean for Undergraduate Studies (non-voting). Terms will be two years. The GEC will monitor and review the General Education program and, if need be, modify. Any recommendation will go to the BUCC. Goals will be reviewed every 4 years.

Timeline for the new General Education: Fall 2010, review, approval and election of the GEC. Spring 2011, the GEC begins reviewing proposals. This continues through 2011/12. The new Gen Ed program will be required for students entering BU Fall 2012. Students already enrolled will continue to use the old GE system. Progress on the proposed General Education policy can be found at: <a href="https://www.bloomu.edu/documents/gened/GenEdProgramDescription.pdf">www.bloomu.edu/documents/gened/GenEdProgramDescription.pdf</a>

Middle States has given Bloomsburg University 2 years to implement a new General Education policy.

### 8. Open Forum

### 9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 PM.

### Minutes of the Forum Meeting of Wednesday, November 10, 2010

Chairperson, Mark Tapsak, called the meeting to order on November 10, 2010, at 3 PM in the Multipurpose- B Room, Kehr Union.

**Present**: Complete list unavailable

Guests who signed in: Complete list unavailable

# 1. Approval of November 10, 2010 Agenda

Motion to approve the Agenda made by Vince DiLoretto; seconded by Mike Pugh. The motion was approved by voice vote.

### 2. Approval of September 29, 2010 Minutes

Motion to approve the Minutes made by John Riley; seconded by Wayne Mohr. Mark Decker and Carl Chimi abstained. The motion was approved by voice vote.

### 3. Announcements

Mark Tapsak announced the Forum is run under Robert's Rule of Order.

### 4. Reports by Standing Committees

# A. BUCC

Carl Chimi, Chair of the BUCC, reported. Since the last Forum, the BUCC passed a new policy on Student Disruptive Behavior in an Academic Setting; they made changes to PRP-3522 Grades, Quality Points and Quality Point Averages changing all letter grades of E into an F. There will not be any more E's. This is a partial review. A continuation to the remainder of this PRP will be discussed at a future BUCC meeting. An open meeting was conducted on October 20<sup>th</sup> at which General Education was discussed. At the November 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting, the BUCC passed: a new course 50.334 Molecular Biology Lab, changes to B.S. Biology Option: Molecular Biology Curriculum; and a new course 52.333 Advanced Organic Chemistry. The next BUCC meeting is November 17<sup>th</sup> at which there will be a second reading of the General Education Task Force Proposal.

# B. General Administration Committee

Vince DiLoretto reported. At their meeting on November 17<sup>th</sup>, the Agenda will include PRP5253 Smoking Policy, election of a chair, and four outdated policies on facilities use and policies.

### C. Planning and Budget

Dick Baker gave a brief synopsis on their last meeting which was an informational only meeting. They received reports on enrollment numbers, preliminary budget numbers, and hard numbers from last year.

# D. Student Life

Jennifer Raup reported their committee met on November 5<sup>th</sup>. They discussed general education, student life on campus, campus climate, and the new pilot program through CGA for

renting textbooks. They did not have a quorum present to elect a chair so they are holding the election via email. A list of all Student Life related PRP's has been sent to all members of the committee. They will be discussing the PRP's at a future meeting.

### 5. SPARC 2

Dr. Rugen prepared a presentation on the budget. He provided information on the reserve and the three areas of income: Educational & General; Auxiliary – Kehr Union fees, room & board, and the Recreation Center fee; and Restricted — any entity that gives us money with restrictions (State and Federal Work Study funding is included). He provided the current budget status as well as several forecast scenarios. He indicated several of our sister institutions are experiencing larger deficits than Bloomsburg. Dr. Blake indicated the Deans are working on identifying additional revenue through consulting and centers that will generate revenue. We now have a Masters in Public Policy and International Affairs and we were approved to reactivate our Masters in Accounting degree which will generate revenue.

Larry Fritz and Barb Wilson reported on the Strategic Plan. The plan is backed by the Administration. We are moving forward considering the constraints of the budget. Four broad goals of the Strategic Plan: 1. Enhance Academic Excellence; 2. Achieve Excellence While Assuring Financial Sustainability; 3. Design an Enrollment Vision in Terms of Demand, Program Mix, and Capacity; 4. Fostering to Develop a Strong Sense of Community. Action plans have been proposed but the SPARC team would like some feedback. Formal suggestions can be sent to Brenda Cromley in the President's Office. The next steps will be for the SPARC team to conduct more informational meetings. Next term, they will morph into review teams and begin to meet with personnel and the units and get ideas and progress plans trying to reach those goals. They want to gather that information and facilitate how to achieve these goals.

# 6. General Education Proposal

John Riley reported the latest revised documents were sent to the BUCC: PRP 3612; By-Laws for the General Education Council; and, the Operating Procedures. The Task Force is constantly changing based on feedback. They made minor changes to the GEU's, and added breadth of exposure by increasing the number of disciplines to three from two. They added a requirement that some of the communication GEU's has to be in writing, and they added physical activity, quantitative reasoning and an acknowledgement to the Humanities. They also provided clarity on the rubric policy (any department can write their own rubrics), and changed the language in the By-Laws adding another faculty member, and clarifying the election procedure. There was a change to the Operating Procedure to add the word *master* syllabus not intending to be individual syllabi. There were no questions following the presentation.

### 7. Open Forum

Dr. Blake explained that Middle States did reaccredit the University but requested a report due by April 1, 2011, documenting steps taken to strengthen the General Education including the development of learning goals stated as outcomes with the implementation and documented assessment process for General Education. Within the Monitoring Report, they only mentioned three standards but in the report itself, they mentioned five recommendations. They did not mention institutional assessment and assessment of student learning outcomes, however, these two are included within another item. Dr. Blake was a member of the Middle States Review Team at two small colleges to get a sense of what they do in their report. She obtained a summary of actions which defines any action Middle States would take on any self-study. The next step from where we are is a warning; however, we have been told we should have received the warning already. Two options in the warning are to place the institution on probation or pull their Accreditation. There has been an increase in the number of warnings issued by Middle States as a result of pressure from Federal and State Funding agencies.

In 1999, Middle States mentioned that Bloomsburg doesn't have a general education policy that works. In 2007, the BUCC made a recommendation to the former Provost that a task force be formed to

deal with general education.

A Middle States liaison visited our campus in September and reviewed our progress to the standards. Discussion continued among members and guests regarding the General Education Policy.

Toni Trumbo-Bell asked the audience to create GEU worksheets within their departments and discuss their findings with members of the BUCC prior to the BUCC's vote. John Riley reminded members that the GEC will monitor the process and can make adjustments if needed to help make general education work.

# 8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5PM.