

**General Education Council**  
**Minutes**  
**April 22, 2013**  
**PAC 493**

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**Present:**

Steve Schnebly  
John Martin  
Richard Gilman-Opalsky  
Dorothy Hemmo  
Peter Shapinsky  
Harshavardhan Bapat  
Donna Bussell  
Tung Nguyen  
Karen Moranski

**Absent:**

Patricia Byrnes  
Samia Ahmad

**Visitor:**

Tena Helton

I. Approval of Minutes of April 8, 2013

**ACTION:** With some corrections, John Martin moved to approve the minutes of April 8. Peter Shapinsky seconded the motion and all were in favor.

II. Foreign Language Discussion

The Council spent this meeting discussing the implementation of a foreign language requirement at UIS. Tena Helton gave much insight into why language should be a requirement. The English Department has given Foreign Languages a home department since we do not have a Director of Foreign Languages.

The Council considered where in General Education the languages would fit and the number of hours that should be required versus the number of hours already required for Gen Ed.

Some of the consideration is to take 6 hours from humanities and social sciences for foreign languages. If we put an attribute on them right away, students can get credit immediately; or maybe they should be petitioned. It was suggested having Brian Clevenger help with the easiest way to do this. This will also give Honors a chance to figure out where they fit into all of this.

Action: The Council will take a look at the curriculum at ISU, U of I Urbana and other Illinois publics, as well as COPLAC institutions to see how they divide their lower division hours. Then we can decide how to reshape Gen Ed and our student's path to the majors.

Steve Schnebly thanked Tena Helton for coming and Tena thanked the Council for taking this seriously and looking into how to make it happen.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Ply

Next Meeting: May 13, 2013