Members Present: Carl Bellone, Saied Haddad, Rosanne Harris, Roberta Millstein, Steve Peng, Xeno Rasmusson, Jeff Seitz (Chair), Jeff Simons, Emily Stoper, Erica Wildy

Members Absent: Joy Bhadury, Kyzyl Fenno-Smith, Ladonna Rangel

Guests: Emily Brizendine, Jim Murphy, Jim Zarrillo

The meeting was called to order at 2:45 p.m.

In the absence of Kyzyl Fenno-Smith, Emily Stoper volunteered to write the minutes.

1. Approval of Agenda – MSP Stoper/Haddad, 8-0-0, to approve, with flexibility to accommodate guests.

2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings
   January 30, 2006 - MSP Stoper/Simons, 8-0-0, to approve, conditional on the addition of time of adjournment and the secretary’s signature.
   February 20, 2006 – MS Peng/Haddad. A number of suggested changes had been made earlier in the day via email and so the members were working from several different versions; moreover, the regular secretary was not present. Therefore: MSP Stoper/Peng 8-0-0, to table until next meeting

3. Chair’s Report
   Seitz reported that the Executive Committee placed on the Senate Agenda CIC 12, containing all the G.E. approvals passed at earlier CIC meetings.

4. Report of Associate Vice President
   Bellone reported that the results of the piloting of the assessment rubrics are coming in now and will be available for discussion at CIC’s April 3 meeting. He expects a very high response rate, in the range of 90%.

5. Subcommittee Reports
   a. General Education (Seitz, standing in for Sally Murphy) – The Subcommittee met and considered many courses for application to G.E. requirements. It also discussed the issue of appropriateness of the information literacy outcomes. It considered appointing a new “faculty learning community” (ad hoc faculty committee), consisting of Kris Ramsdell and Kyzyl Fenno-Smith, to look at how courses in each of the different G.E. areas teach information literacy and to consider simplifying the list of learning outcomes in this area.

   Millstein noted her concern that the G.E. Subcommittee is not producing minutes, although there is an online tracking system for courses proposed for G.E. applications.
However, without minutes there is no record of policy discussions in the subcommittee. A faculty member could be elected secretary; right now, Linda Beebe functions as secretary of the subcommittee. Other subcommittees are producing minutes; it was suggested that they all be routinely posted on CIC’s website. MSP, Millstein/Seitz, 9-0-0, to request the G.E. Subcommittee to produce minutes in a timely manner.

Stoper asked if the Cultural Groups/Women Subcommittee was active; no-one knew.

b. Graduate Programs (Carl Bellone) – No report.

c. Technology and Instruction (Wildy) – This subcommittee has met for the second time and is researching how other campuses are handling issues related to online and hybrid courses. Three more meetings have been scheduled.

d. Writing Skills (Rasmusson) – Since the introduction of the new system of grading the Writing Skills Test internally instead of out-sourcing it, the first-try pass rate has been much more consistent, holding steady at around 50%.

6. Request for Approval of New Minor in Early Childhood Education
Jim Zarrillo of the Teacher Education Department explained that the new minor was developed in response to the recent expansion of pre-school programs, due to the mandate to create a new California State Early Learning Credential and the increases in state funding for academic-based (as opposed to developmental) pre-school programs. Students who complete the minor will be eligible to receive a State Certificate in Early Childhood Education, as will students completing similar programs in the community colleges. No new resources will be needed, because the program will replace another Teacher Education program that is no longer needed.

Stoper questioned numbering the six new courses in the proposed minor at the 5000 level, given that neither the program nor any of its courses has any undergraduate prerequisites and that it is probable that most students taking the courses will be undergraduates. Most courses in teaching methods are numbered 5000, but that is because the single-subject and multi-subject teacher preparation programs serve as prerequisites to them. It was pointed out that linguistics courses in English, Anthropology or Human Development might be appropriate prerequisites, as might several courses in the arts and two early childhood courses in Human Development.

Jim Zarrillo, who took the lead in designing the program, decided to withdraw it at this time and bring it back after considering CIC’s comments. Stoper suggested creation of a certificate program in early childhood education in addition to the minor, in order to serve students who wish to obtain the State Certificate but do not wish to complete an undergraduate or graduate degree.
7. Request for Approval of Modification of the B.S. Major Program in Interdisciplinary Studies
MSP Stoper/Millstein, 9-0-0, to approve. The modification reduces the number of required units for B.S. majors in Interdisciplinary Studies.

8. Course Applications for General Education:
Area B6 (Science)
Psyc 4350 – Heredity and Behavior
Psyc 4320 – Physiological Psychology
MSP Rasmusson/Simons, 9-0-0, to approve both courses.

Area C2 & 3 – Humanities
Engl 2050 – Introduction to Critical Writing in Drama
Engl 2600 – Patterns of Immigration and Migration in US Literature
MSP Rasmusson/Millstein, 8-0-1, to approve both courses.

Area D4 – Upper Division Social Science
Anth 3000 – Anthropology and the Modern World
Anth 3400 – Social Anthropology
Anth 3785 – Anthropology in Action
MSP Stoper/Peng, 9-0-0, to approve all three courses.

Posc 3111 – The American Presidency
Posc 3419 – Labor Policy and Law
MSP Stoper/Rasmusson, 9-0-0, to approve both courses.

9. Discussion of Assessment of GE Student Learning Outcomes (continued)
It was suggested that CIC postpone this discussion until the results of the rubrics pilot are in. Millstein commented that it is very important to discuss alternatives to rubrics for assessing G.E. Stoper said that CIC has done so in the past few meetings. Seitz, who participated in the rubrics pilot, said that he found that the use of the rubrics was so difficult and time-consuming that gave up and just reported the students’ exam grades. Even for a single learning outcome, with 4 indicators, identifying the relevant exam questions and analyzing students’ scores on those questions for each indicator, proved impractical. Seitz also pointed out the artificiality of separately analyzing each learning outcomes, since, for example, in most UDGE Science courses you cannot divorce quantitative skills from course content. It was agreed that we really do need to consider alternatives to rubrics. Seitz will invite Roseann Hogan, Assistant Vice President for Institutional Research and Assessment, to our next meeting; it is hoped she can serve as a neutral expert.

10. Adjournment was at 5:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Emily Stoper
Substitute Scribe