1. Approval of Agenda for 02/02/09. MSP Mashaw/Woo 7/0/0

2. Approval of Minutes from 12/01/08 and 01/05/09. MSP Ivey/Watnik 7/0/0

3. Report from Chair of CIC:
Chair introduced a message from Jennifer Eagan regarding class enrollment caps in GE courses and the possibility of some colleges encouraging departments to exceed those caps. Tom McCoy noted that Academic Senate has a role in shared governance and enforcing course caps is important. Despite budget issues, we need to uphold standards. McCoy noted that the President said that there is no policy to encourage upping caps, but clearly some deans are trying to encourage (though not require) higher caps on courses. Higher caps amounts to a “work speed-up”. McCoy distributed copies of EP&R 76- the document with the normal course limits. In the contract, he says, it is stated that generally upping course caps is not allowed. The Chair requested McCoy suggest a policy statement and McCoy said that he merely recommends that CIC maintain the current policy. Eagan was asked to discuss the matter from a department chair’s point-of-view. She said that non-instructional funds have been almost completely cut to try to address the 19% cut to academic affairs. Many lecturer courses have already been cut. Further cuts are likely to be either GE or major courses. “From the chair’s perspective,” she said, “about the only way to accomplish this is to increase caps. […] It is not something I want to impose on faculty. It is not something I think I can impose on faculty. I worry that this sets a precedent […] the caps will never go down.” Murphy noted that the document McCoy gave was system-wide recommendations. For some GE courses with extensive writing, there are explicit caps made by the Academic Senate (45). There are departments that are notorious for not making students do the writing and often these departments allow large enrollments in these courses. This movement towards higher caps would allow the “few bad actors” to become the norm. There is currently no mechanism to undo GE course approvals. Over 70% of GE courses are in CLASS and they are being told to cut offerings and up caps. “If we protect the majors but fail to protect the requirements across campus […] then we will delay graduation for all students. […] I hope that something could be said by this body to protect GE.” Murphy added that remedial writing courses’ sizes have doubled to 30. Eagan noted that many chairs are unaware of the caps of their courses and the implications of GE courses. The
Chair noted that any policy statement would have to state the importance of GE and encouraged the statement of hard caps for GE courses. Eagan and Murphy were asked to create a draft policy for approval at the next meeting. MSP Ivey/Mashaw 8/0/0.

4. Report from Presidential Appointee: AVP Bellone requested a speedy approval of the online/hybrid policy.

5. PHIL 2003 Request to Satisfy GE Areas C2-3. MSP Ivey/Cerutti 8/0/0.

6. Replacement for Stevina Eveulocha on the Writing Skills Subcommittee of CIC. Professor Jerry Liu (Accounting) is willing to replace. MSP Marsh/Mitchell 8/0/0.

7. Proposed Changes to the Policy on Online and Hybrid Instruction. AVP Bellone noted that this was discussed in the online campus advisory committee, which recommended dropping “minors, options” from the statement. MSP to accept as amended Mitchell/Tran 8/0/0.

8. MUS 3014 Request to Satisfy GE Area C4. This course is designed to meet the needs of majors and GE students simultaneously. Mashaw noted that there are no prerequisites. Watnik noted that this conflicts with the proposed policy. Marsh offered to insert prerequisites. Murphy suggested that the upcoming policy will have a corollary with a universal modification for upper division GEs. MSP Ivey/Tran. 7/1/0.

9. PHYS 3750 (already approved for GE Area B6) Request to be Taught Online. Murphy noted that this course is a prototype for addition to online/hybrid status. MSP Tran/Marsh 7/0/1.

10. Referral regarding Priority Registration & Registration Order. The Chair asked to postpone discussion to 2/16 to allow for documents to reach the committee and that the committee can fully consider the issues. MSP Mitchell/Watnik 8/0/0.

11. Return of 08-09 CIC 16, Guidelines for GE Prereqs and Suggestions for Prereqs for UD and Graduate Courses; for clarification. The Chair thanked Watnik for effort on redoing the document. Ivey made numerous suggestions. MSP to table for further consultation with ExCom members. Mitchell/Marsh 8/0/0.

12. Return of 08-09 CIC 17, Policy Guidelines for Requesting New Course Prefixes; for clarification. Mitchell suggested a few changes to accommodate ExCom concerns. MSP Mashaw/Tran 8/0/0.

13. Adjournment. MSP Ivey/Tran 8/0/0

Respectfully submitted,
Mitchell Watnik