Call to Order
Provost Steve Allred called the meeting to order at 4:02 PM in the North Court Reception Room.

New Business
Provost Allred began the meeting by noting there we were gathered for one reason: to vote on how to count First-Year Seminar (FYS) courses during their first year of implementation. He called on Gene Anderson to make a motion.

Gene Anderson noted that the following motion was endorsed by the General Education Revision Committee of the ad hoc Curriculum Task Force.

“The two required FYS courses will substitute for the general education requirements previously satisfied by the Core course, English 103 and Library 100/101. FYS courses may not be used to satisfy any other general education requirements, including field of study requirements. Determination of whether any given FYS course satisfies a major, minor, or concentration requirement falls under the discretion of the appropriate department, program, or school. The following policy shall apply only to those first-year students entering the University in the fall of 2010.”

The motion was seconded.

Carol Summers suggested separating this motion into two clauses: one on general education and one on majors, minors, and concentrations. This was accepted as a friendly amendment, so that the motion then read:

“The following policy shall apply only to those first-year students entering the University in the fall of 2010. The two required FYS courses will substitute for the general education requirements previously satisfied by the Core course, English 103 and Library 100/101. FYS courses may not be used to satisfy any other general education requirements, including field of study requirements.”

Terry Price suggested that the second part (pertaining to major, minors, and concentration requirements) was already accepted policy.

Provost Allred asked that we start with the first part.

Gene Anderson noted that it is practical to postpone the discussion of counting FYS toward general education requirements for the period after next year, since the general education requirements are still under study by his committee.
Scott Davis spoke in opposition to the motion stating that the General Education Revision Committee has the goal of reducing general education requirements to as few as possible. He noted that if passed, the motion will set a precedent for the long-term policy.

Libby Gruner responded that general education requirements have already been reduced by one and that we are moving toward streamlining the general education requirements. She urged the faculty to leave it up to the committee saying it would be difficult to prevent inequity if some count toward field of study requirements, and others do not.

After a vote, the motion passed. Provost Allred then encouraged discussion on the second part of the motion.

“The following policy shall apply to those first-year students enter the University in the fall 2010. Determination of whether any given FYS course satisfies a major, minor, or concentration requirement falls under the discretion of the appropriate department, program, or school.”

Terry Price asked again if we need to affirm this policy.

A brief discussion ensued of how the Registrar would know if an FYS course fulfilled a major requirement.

Carol Summers asked if there will be enough seats, to which Libby Gruner responded that only first year students can register.

Noting that only freshmen who have not yet declared a major will be in the classes, Con Beausang suggested there may be significant staffing implications.

Joanna Drell said that counting these classes toward any major will be unfair, since it would occur more often in some departments and none will count toward a science major.

Dan Palazzolo said that if the concern is counting seminars twice, then departments should be given the flexibility to make this decision. There are already inequities with some departments requiring ten units while others require eight units.

Julie Laskaris agreed that there are already inequities and doubted that all such differences could be eliminated.

Scott Davis said that it is a department’s choice to decide whether or not to count FYS seminars and that it should not be disadvantaged for doing so.

Geoff Goddu asked what would happen if we vote this motion down. He noted that if we support it, we are affirming the present policy, and if we vote it down, we need to go back and change our present policy.

Provost Allred agreed.
The voice vote was unclear. Division followed. The motion passed.

Art Charlesworth asked a point of clarification regarding students who enter in January 2011. He moved adding at the end of the first sentence of the first motion “or spring 2011.” The motion was seconded. The motion passed.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:27 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Erik Craft, University Faculty Secretary