

## May Experience Sub-Committee

Minutes for April 24, 2006

In attendance: Aarnes, Armstrong, Batson, Bressler, Cass, Gabbert, Haney, Malvern, Calvin, Lacey

Minutes for April 3 were approved. From now on drafts of minutes will be posted for correction and approval.

The meeting opened with a discussion of a timetable. The committee will try to complete by the end of this term—

- A discussion of departmental thinking

- A draft of guidelines for the May Experience

- A working draft of the electronic form for May Experience course proposals (our hope being to have this draft on a website and running before the faculty retreat in September).

We then discussed the bulleted item on page 23 on the approved CRC Proposal that reads:

“Teaching two two-credit May Experience courses in successive years would earn one four-credit course reduction during the fall of spring semester.”

We are not to consider this statement as a rule. The “successive” does not create a requirement. Department chairs will need to keep records of how many May Experience courses faculty teach and what times they have been able to use the semester course(s) earned. To the question whether a faculty member can use May Experience courses in order to receive pay for doing an overload, the committee responded that such thinking was not in the spirit of the CRC proposal. To the question about whether faculty need to teach two May Experience courses *before* having a reduction in a semester load, the committee decided that department chairs should be allowed the flexibility to handle this issue in ways that promoted departmental programs (with some worry that a May Experience course taught to repay for a semester course reduction may not make).

We then had a brief discussion about how May Experiences that involve travel will sometimes necessarily involve two faculty. Such a requirement may complicate how the college and departments administer the May Experience.

The committee then turned its focus to discussing what kinds of courses can be taught during May Experience and count for students’ majors. There was agreement on these principles:

- A May Experience course cannot be a GER (or whatever the core courses will be called).

- A May Experience course cannot be a four-hour course.

After a preliminary discussion of how May Experience courses can relate to majors, the committee decided it needed clarification of some issues and decided to return to the discussion during a later meeting.

We had a brief discussion of concern about what the operating procedures of the committee will be during the time it is involved in the approval process for proposed May Experience Courses.

The Committee put off until a later meeting a discussion of our survey of departmental interest in the May Experience and adjourned.

Sincerely submitted,

William Aarnes