

GEAH Meeting – September 23, 2008

Present: Andrea, Alex, Jane, Deb, Conrad, Cheryl, Kristi, Dan, Ryan

Discussion:

Our discussion was lively regarding the structure of this first session. Allowing this first session to be loosely structured yet guided and on track was our consensus.

Forum #1 General Education & Education in General

Committee introductions ... Andrea will mention why we are there

We serve on this committee as volunteers! We are on this committee because we are committed to bettering education at MSU and helping students be better prepared following graduation.

Today's discussion is fairly free and open ... our discussion will vet out the larger issues, how people feeling about the process, what do we tend to agree on, what do we need to discuss. Upcoming meetings will be passed on comments collected by participants.

Pass out cards and explain

Discussion Begins

- Bok Quote (page 57, last paragraph)
- Purpose (page 41)

Zesty Dialog

- Andrea will break into groups for a 5 minute dialog/brainstorming session.

Possible Questions from Committee Members

- What is wrong with our current system and why are we trying to change it?
- What role should general education classes play in shaping, imparting, or developing skills, traits and knowledge we see as desirable in an MSU graduate?
- If general education classes represent approximately 1/3 of the student experience (Bok, 47-48), how much choice should the student have in selecting these courses? Should the courses be exclusively 100-200 level?

- If one purpose of a general education program is to encourage “mastery of intellectual and scholarly skills” [Bok, quoting Fish, p.59], what institutional changes, resources, or adjustments would support MSU faculty in achieving this goal in general education classes?