

February 1, 2008

MEMORANDUM

TO: Deans, Directors, and Department Heads

FROM: Larry A. Nielsen
Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor

SUBJECT: General Education Plan

I am pleased to announce that NC State University will implement a new General Education Plan (GEP) effective for students who enroll in the Second Summer session of 2009 and thereafter. We will adopt the GEP recommended by the General Education Task Force (June 29, 2007 version found on the General Education Task Force page <http://www.ncsu.edu/uap/committees/gertf/>). As we move forward to the implementation stage, I extend my thanks, on behalf of our entire university, to the General Education Task Force for their dedicated service in developing a comprehensive general education framework that moves our institution into the 21st century, and which also recognizes our special strengths as a leading research and Land-Grant University.

I am assigning the implementation of our new GEP to the Council on Undergraduate Education (CUE), which is the University Standing Committee charged with overseeing general education, with the administrative support of the Division of Undergraduate Academic Programs (DUAP).

We have made this decision after several years of intensive work by the Task Force and several iterations of campus-wide input. Nonetheless, although the overall structure of the GEP is complete, we still have much to do. As the Faculty Senate stated in their adoption of the GEP, they did so “with concern for implementation” and with specific questions regarding the nature of the interdisciplinary course requirement. Therefore, I am asking CUE and DUAP to be especially open and participative in their approach to the implementation process. As we learned when we created our first general education program in the mid-1990s, we must be flexible and realistic as we craft the GEP into a workable program. I ask each of us to contribute positively and constructively as we move forward.

Thanks again to our General Education Task Force and to each of you for all you do to assure that an NC State education is as good as it can be.

cc: James L. Oblinger, Chancellor
James D. Martin, Chair of the Faculty