

Communication Across/Within the Discipline Focus Group
March 11, 2005

Extra-university interest: Prospective Employers cite need for strong communication skills.

Gordon Rule: Information being collected on what writing is being completed in what GEP courses. A GEP Showcase of work (apart from Undergraduate Research) was suggested. This would provide an opportunity for oral and written communication experiences.

Portfolio production: Faculty considering using portfolios to provide evidence of meeting both program standards and other standards such as the Gordon Rule can use the <http://www.FACTS.org> website. The group explored the site briefly. Paula Krist and Tace Crouse will review its capabilities further and provide a report to the group.

“Communication” is a two-way street that includes receiving messages, in addition to sending them out.

Reading within the Discipline: The need for selecting, interpreting and using appropriate readings was addressed. The upcoming Information Fluency project could address this.

Assessment:

Critiques: Peer Reviews are powerful.

A discussion on the usefulness of rubrics led to two action items. The Faculty Center will request sample rubrics used by faculty for assignments to post on the website. These will supplement the ones already there. The Faculty Center will post writing and presentation rubrics supplied by Martha Marinara and other faculty on the website.