

FACULTY SENATE AGENDA ITEM

NO. 09-25

SUBJECT: WTE Recommendation from the Academic Affairs Committee

RATIONALE OR REASON:

- The impact of WTE on students (work/course load, traditional, nontraditional, veterans, etc)
- Faculty support/buy-in and areas of on-going concern regarding compensation
- The impact on students, faculty, and WTE divisions if any change is made to the WTE requirement.
- Management/administration of program through four WTE divisions
- Funding (General budget reductions, State funding reduction) and distribution of funds

Data and information reviewed (available upon request):

- Oral and written responses from faculty in CAS, SAS, SON, and SoBu (questions attached).
- Informal discussions with students both in class and outside class.
- Responses regarding WTE from WU students/leaders/faculty compiled by WSGA President, Garrett Love. According to the report, “These questions were sent to members of Washburn Student Government Association, the Presidents and Advisors from the student organizations at WU, other identified leaders across campus, and Future Alumni Network members, and the top 3 student/leaders on each athletic team.”
- Washburn Transformational Experience Final Assessment from students completing a WTE project (including comments). The assessment tool was written by Gary Forbach and Cindy Hornberger
- Washburn WTE survey results and student responses (10/21/09)
- Presentations from each of the WTE Directors (Community Service, International, Leadership, and Scholarly and Creative)
- Strategic Planning open forum responses pertaining to WTE
- KBOR Performance Report, March 2009
- Snapshots from a display chart titled, *The Effect of Out-of-classroom Transforming Experiences*, based on research by Tiffany Strohmeier.
- Terris, Ben (2009, November 8). Transfer students are less likely to take part in high impact activities. *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. Retrieved from <http://chronicle.com/article/Transfer-Students-Are-Less/49070/>.
- Kinzie, Jillian (2009) Expanding excellence , inclusiveness and student success: Implications for practice. *NSSE Institute*. Presented at the Tilford Conference on Diversity and Multiculturalism, 2009.

- The WTE Budget
- Retention Analysis, Fall 2008 to Fall 2009 (10/30/09).

PROPOSED ACTION:

1. Recommend WTE be changed to an optional program effective Fall 2010 with waivers available for students graduating under the 2006-2007 through 2009-2010 university catalogs, who have extenuating circumstances.
2. Recommend the Honors Program consider WTE as a requirement to graduate with “Honors.”

FINANCIAL IMPLICATION:

Unknown.

DATE: 12/4/09

SUBMITTED BY: Academic Affairs
Committee