I. Roll

( ) Ben Curtis       ( ) Caedmon Liburd       ( ) Robin Wahto
( ) Jackie Cason     ( ) Walter Olivares      ( ) Dan Schwartz
( ) Barbara Harville ( ) Jack Pauli          ( ) SOENGR Vacant
( ) Gail Holtzman    ( ) Len Smiley           ( ) Guest Tom Miller

II. Approval of the Agenda

III. Approval of Meeting Summary for January 13, 2006

IV. Chair’s Report

V. Course Action Requests

A. Chg GEOL A456 Geoarchaeology (3cr) (3+0)

VI. Old Business

A. Review of the following Descriptors for presentation to UAB (see page 2):

1. Oral Communication Descriptor
2. Written Communication Descriptor
3. Quantitative Skills Descriptor

VII. New Business
**Oral Communication Descriptor:**

Oral Communication skills courses increase the abilities of students to interact appropriately and effectively in a variety of contexts, including interpersonal, small group, and public speaking settings. In these courses, students develop both their message creation and message interpretation skills in order to be more successful communicators. In doing so, students develop an awareness of the role of communication in a variety of human relationships. Students develop and implement effective and appropriate communication skills, including the ability to develop, organize, present, and critically evaluate messages; analyze audiences; and adapt to a variety of in-person communication settings.

**Written Communication Descriptor:**

Written communication courses emphasize that writing is a recursive and frequently collaborative process of invention, drafting, and revising as well as a primary element of active learning in literate cultures. Students practice methods for establishing credibility, reasoning critically, and appealing to the emotions and values of their audience. They write for a variety of purposes and audiences by employing methods of rhetorical and cultural analysis. They develop the tools to read, think, and write analytically about print and non-print texts and to generate texts that engage their own perceptions while synthesizing the ideas of texts and scholars. Students demonstrate their ability to communicate effectively by selecting form and content that fits the situation; adhering to genre conventions; adapting their voice, tone, and level of formality to that situation; and controlling stylistic features such as sentence variety, syntax, grammar, usage, punctuation, and spelling.

**Quantitative Skills Descriptor:**

Quantitative skills courses increase the mathematical abilities of students in order to make them more adept and competent producers and wiser consumers of the mathematical, statistical and computational analyses which will dominate 21st century decision-making. In these courses, all baccalaureate students develop their algebraic, analytic and numeric skills, use them to solve applied problems, and correctly explain their mathematical reasoning.