1) Policies

Beyond its routine duties (described below) the Foundations Board (henceforth, FB) discussed possible recommendations regarding the FS requirement. Recommendations were finalized in a report submitted to the GEC in April 2011. These include:

a) enforcement of FS as a first year requirement beginning at the end of the second year
b) a change to the Explanatory Notes for FS Hallmark 5

2) Proposal Review

The FB received five requests for designation. While none of these were renewals, one was for an existing course; four were for new courses.

a) FSHN 141 - Culture and Cuisine: The Global Diversity of Food
b) MATH 161 - Precalculus and Elements of Calculus for Economics and the Social Sciences
c) TIM 102 - Food and World Cultures
d) HAW 100 - Language in Hawaii: A Survival Kit for Life in Hawaii
e) SOCS 150 - Street Science: Evaluating and Applying Evidence in Daily Life

FSHN 141 is a new course, requesting an FG designation. The FB approved an FGB designation without request for revision.

MATH 161 is a new course, requesting an FS designation. The FB requested a small number of changes to the original proposal. After brief negotiation with the proposer these were implemented to the satisfaction of the FB and the request was approved.
TIM 102 is a new course requesting an FG designation. The FB requested that the course proposer clarify one or two points in the original proposal. Once these clarifications were received, the FB approved an FGB designation.

HAW 100 is an existing course, requesting a new FG designation. After reading the original proposal, the FB was concerned that the course may be too narrowly focused to warrant an FG designation. This concern (and others) was discussed with the course proposers. A revised proposal was recently received.

SOCS 150 is a new course, requesting FS designation. The FB does not believe the original proposal made a sufficient case that SOCS 150 satisfies the FS Hallmarks. After discussions with the course proposer, and requesting and receiving an expanded draft proposal, the FB recommended to the GEC that SOCS 150 receive a one year provisional approval. A fresh and more detailed proposal may be reviewed during the next cycle. The deliberations of the FB regarding SOCS 150 were informed by input from two external faculty members familiar with the FS requirement and its history.

3) Transfer Requests

The FB received six requests for evaluation of transfer credit. One request for FS credit was returned to the Philosophy Department by the FB Chair, after consultation. The remaining five requests were discussed by the FB. Two requests for FS credit were granted. Two requests for FG credit were granted and another was denied.

4) Multi-Campus Foundations Board

The Multi-Campus Foundations Board will meet on May 6, 2011.

5) Ongoing Concerns and Issues

In its report to the GEC, the Working Group on FS recommended expanding the options available to students for fulfilling the FS requirement. In response, we anticipate an increase in requests for FS designation both for existing and newly created courses. An outreach effort to promote discussion and understanding of the FS requirement might increase both the quantity and quality of these non-traditional proposals.