

General Education Committee
February 8th, 2018 4:00 pm
HSS 2018

Voting Members Present: Ali Khalil, Bob Bennett, David Harding, Gary Edwards, Hong Zhou, Karen Yanowitz, Bert Greenwalt, Lillie Fears, Marc Williams, Paige Wimberley, Zahid Hossain

Ex-Officio Members Present: Summer DeProw

Members Absent: Matt Costello, Randy Kesselring, Rebecca Oliver, LTC Michael Fellure, Karen Wheeler

Meeting convened at 4:07 pm

1. Approval of December 1st minutes – Motioned; was seconded by Dr. Harding; Approved by all.
2. Outstanding Business
 - a. General Education Awards
 - i. Re-establish Committee – Current committee consist of Dr. Yanowitz, and Ali Khalil and both agreed to continue
 - ii. Pick a new chair - Dr. Bennett can no longer be the chair of the committee due to retirement in May. Dr. Harding volunteered to be added to the committee and also to be the chair. The committee agreed.

Please make note that this means we will need to choose a new chair in the May meeting. The membership of the committee should stay fairly solid as the chair and committee members all serve a 3 year term. Picking a new chair in May will allow the committee to have leadership in place should anything arise in the summer that needs to come to the committee.
 - iii. Discuss getting a process together for April of 2019 – The committee agreed to meet and talk about a process for 2019.
 - b. Multicultural/Diversity Committee (see number for 5 for conversation departure) – This committee has met, and would be interested in seeing the data from the PLO to ULO project once it is completed.
3. Revised GEC Assessment Reports
 - a. Response from departments:
 - i. Philosophy – The Philosophy department received the feedback about doing interrater reliability and has agreed to try to implement this moving forward. We are not asking them to do this for retroactive data as it isn't possible.
 - ii. Music – The committee had several improvements for the music department. The music department is working on getting all of their information together before their self-study this fall. Ken Hatch reported back to Dr. Bennett that everything is progressing as proposed. Dr. Deprow said that we might want to check back in with them.
 - iii. Art – We did not have any suggestions for the art department. They are on target.
 - iv. Theatre – The committee was concerned that the assessment tool for the theatre department was not rigorous enough. Marc Williams reported that they have formed a committee to discuss revising that tool.
 - v. Literature – The committee was not concerned with the literature department's assessment report. They had some data errors and that was the only comment made.

General Education Committee
February 8th, 2018 4:00 pm
HSS 2018

- b. Interim report from Oral Communication – The interim report from Oral Communications was received today and the assessment office plans to get that report out to the committee before the next meeting for review. Question: When we are reviewing the assessment report in which context should we be looking at the information? The committee should leave it to subject matter experts to look at their data, but we review the data for significant errors. We mainly look at the process in which they are assessing and whether they executed that process efficiently.

4. GEC Mission and Membership

Please make note that this means we will need to choose a new chair in the May meeting. The membership of the committee should stay fairly solid as the chair and committee members all serve a 3 year term. Picking a new chair in May will allow the committee to have leadership in place should anything arise in the summer that needs to come to the committee. Assessment handbook – The handbook went to the different SGOC committees and there are two feedback matters that the committee should be aware of. A few of the deans were concerned about how the colleges are split out in the GEC committee section. They suggested that we change the word College to Programs. The committee decided that programs was not the correct wording either. The question put forth was do we want to remain consistent with all other SGOC documents, or do we want to be accurate at this time to how the colleges are currently split out. The committee talked about all the ramifications of changing the wording. The committee decided to put in parenthesis in the handbook that the committee recognizes that the college structure is inconsistent with the current structure and is awaiting guidance on how the membership should function.

Second problem – Both the Deans and the chairs council would like a caveat about respecting the subject matter experts. The dean's council would like that added in the GEC committee section and the chairs council asked for it to be added in the opening pages of the document. The committee discussed the placement of such a caveat, and decided that not only should the caveat be included, but also, that it be included in every committee description in the handbook. Dr. Bennett stated, "I think the report with the rest of the university has improved and we want to make sure that continues, with the changing of chairs of these committees." Dr. Deprow asked, "May I take that sentence and make it committee specific so that it fits within each statement?" The committee agreed that she could and that they would vote on the edited document by email.

- 5. GEC outcomes to ULO outcomes alignment project – The office of Assessment would like to make a report that shows which General Education courses support which University Learning Outcomes. Dr. Bennet suggested that committee members take the outcomes back to your respective groups and discuss how these outcomes fit with what the course leaders are doing. The committee could then email the spreadsheets back. Harding mentioned that some of the outcomes cross colleges and would need to be looked at on a course by course basis. The assessment office will send the documents out to the following group leaders for the different outcomes:

Communication: Dr. Lillie Fears, Mr. Ali Khalil

Mathematics: Dr. Hong Zhou

Arts and Humanities: Marc Williams

Social Sciences: Dr. Karen Yanowitz and Dr. David Harding

Sciences: Dr. Bob Bennett

There was further discussion on how this information could help the GEC in the future by creating an outcome tree, and possibly new General Education outcomes. Many of the committee agreed that they would like more input on the learning outcomes than they previously had.

General Education Committee
February 8th, 2018 4:00 pm
HSS 2018

6. HLC

- a. The Office of Assessment will begin offering “coffee breaks” starting February 19th and will continue those through March 2nd for assessment committee members to ask specific questions about the HLC visit. The assessment office will also provide a list of questions that may be asked. Several committee members expressed that they would like to bring faculty members from their respective areas to these meetings. As soon as the assessment office knows who they want to speak with, they will send that out to the committee.
7. Member Items or New Business – When will the next meeting be? March 8th at 4:00 pm
 8. Items to send out: Interim Report for Oral Communications; PLO to ULO project worksheets; Coffee Break times, edited assessment handbook revisions.

Meeting adjourned. 5:07 pm

2017-2018 Subcommittee leaders:

1. Marc Williams – David Harding, Lillie Fears, Gary Edwards
2. Rebecca Oliver – Paige Wimberley, Karen Yanowitz, Zahid Hossain
3. Ali Khalil - Randy Kesselring, Matt Costello, Bert Greenwalt, Hong Zhou
4. Dr. Harding – Dr. Karen Yanowitz, and Mr. Ali Khalil