**General Education Committee**

**Meeting Agenda**

**September 17, 2018 at 9 a.m.**

Voting Members Present: Bert Greenwalt, Gauri Guha, Karen Yanowitz (proxy Loretta McGregor), Zahid Hossain, Rebecca Oliver, Joseph Rukus, Marc Williams, Lillie Fears, David Harding, Paige Wimberley, Ferebee Tunno, Hong Zhou, Zahid Hossain

Ex-Officio Members Present: Summer DeProw, LTC Brian Mason (proxy CPT Robert Anderson)

Staff Support: Mary Elizabeth Spence, Elizabeth Wakefield

Members Absent: Robert Schichler, Ali Khalil

1. Chair Election – There were no other nominations for chair via email or otherwise. Rebecca Oliver moved that Paige be elected by proclamation. Dr. McGregor seconded.
2. The committee voted on an A-State Assessment Committee member. This committee is charged with the ULOs and this year we are working on exit surveys, alumni survey, and national surveys. Dr. Fears nominated herself. Dr. Harding moved to appoint Dr. Fears to the AAC by proclamation. Dr. Hossain would like to be the backup.
3. Previous Meeting minutes –Dr. Harding moved to accept minutes as presented. Dr. Fears seconded. All were in favor.
4. Continuity from 2017-18: Sub-committee for General Education Teaching Award
	1. Dr. Harding updated the committee on the award and asked Dr. Deprow if the $1000 award would still stand from AAR. She is going to ask. Dr. McGregor asked if the reward recipient must teach general education in order to get the award. We haven’t discussed this and she said that they rotate their general education courses except for the FYE course. Dr. McGregor suggested that when the committee works on the requirements for the award to keep different situations in mind. Dr. Harding agreed to continue serving on the General Education Teaching Award committee. He also plans to talk with Ali Khalil and Dr. Yanowitz to see if they would like to continue to serve. This committee will work on lining out the process for this award to hopefully implement soon. Rebecca Oliver agreed to serve as a consultant, but did not want to be part of the committee.
	2. Multicultural Diversity committee – Dr. Rukus expressed interest in the Multicultural Diversity Committee. Dr. Fears updated. She reminded the committee of the work done by the committee the previous year on diversity in the general education programs.
5. Task force for Book of Committee v. Reality
	1. Please review analysis of membership handouts
		1. Handout was given. Yellow shows the book of committee requirements and the green shows how the committee actually functions. Dr. McGregor thinks this might just be an editorial change and doesn’t have to go through the entire SGOC process. She will ask Angela Daniels who is the chair of the SGOC committee. This actually has more to do with the official structure of the committee and Dr. DeProw mentioned that the committee should appoint a subcommittee to determine the official structure of the General Education Committee. Dr. Guha asked how long the current structure has been in place. Rebecca responded that she has sat on the committee for 10 years with the current structure and that the discrepancy might be from the change in College structure in 2016. A history was given on the book of committees. The book of committees went through the SGOC process and the board of trustees. Rebecca would like to draft something about the committee structure. Dr. Wimberley and Dr. Hossain also agreed to serve on this subcommittee.
6. Overall thoughts on the direction of the committee in 2018-19 – Dr. Guha said that he doesn’t really know what the committee does and so he can’t answer this question. Dr. Rukus agreed. Next Monday the committee will hold a new member orientation to discuss the history and philosophy of the committee.
7. Thirteen Social Sciences assessment reports due October 1, 2018. Dr. Wimberley and Dr. DeProw plan to create subcommittees for each course and send that out soon.
8. Other items we must address in 2018-19:
	1. Assessment process questions
		1. How much can a department adjust the assessment process for a course without GEC approval first?
	2. Does/Should the GEC collect additional data about the General Education program?
		1. Leaving the Den survey data points
		2. Additional surveys
9. Would you like additional professional development regarding this committee and/or the general education curriculum? Items such as:
	1. New member orientation – We will have a new orientation for members next Monday at this same time. This committee is responsible for the general education curriculum, its assessment, and looking at the flexibility of what the government will allow us to do.
	2. Arkansas Course Transfer System – The committee discussed the Arkansas Course Tranfer System and the effect that it has on General Education. It was discussed that we cannot dictate the learning outcomes from other institutions, but we must still accept the transfer credits. The committee discussed the new policy regarding Quantitative Reasoning and how it compares to College Algebra. Dr. Zhou gave us the history of the math general education detailing that the ADHE asked the university to develop a course to substitute for College Algebra because it is a gateway course. Dr. Hossain asked a question about geology course that we need to check on that is very important to Civil Engineering. Dr. Harding would like to see a report on what percentage of our students have taken General Education here versus other institutions and why they are taking it elsewhere. The committee discussed ways in which this data might be gathered and how we would determine the students that we are looking for. Dr. Guha asked if this would be an act of futility since we have to accept the credits anyways? Dr. Harding disagrees in that at least there would be data to take back to the ADHE.
	3. We might also survey our upper level faculty and see what they think about general education.
10. The committee agreed to meet every other week until the end of the semester.
	1. The committee would like an update on the alignment of the ULO’s.