

GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Monday, April 24, 2017

2:30-4:00, HUB 109

Draft Minutes

Present: Wendy Palmquist, Mary Campbell (non-voting), Joseph Rino, Annmarie Conlon (faculty observer), Michael Davidson, Holly Oliver, Michelle Fistek, Sandra Van Gundy, & Dean Mears

Guides Present: Cathy LeBlanc, Annette Holba, & Elliot Gruner

Absent: Corey Yelle (student representative)

Approval of Minutes from April 10, 2017 meeting

Gen Ed working group update, discussion of documents, & 4 credit Gen Ed

- Gen Ed Working Group Process Report that was shared with the Curriculum Committee was received positively and the Curriculum Committee supports ongoing efforts
- The committee has endorsed the General Education Working Group Process Report, in particular the 4 stated Gen Ed outcomes
- Feel comfortable sharing with the faculty the report & the corresponding 4 outcomes; not ready to share the rubrics yet
- Next Steps:
 - May faculty meeting: Gen Ed is asking for a new task force to continue work on the new Gen Ed outcomes including how to present them to the full faculty for review and ultimate approval & review of suggested rubrics; start summer 2017 and return with a proposal for review (University Days) and approval in fall 2017
 - Gen Ed Committee take on the 4 credit work summer 2017 (retreat format)
 - All summer work will be reported back to the Gen Ed committee in the fall with the anticipation of a 2nd Gen Ed task force to work on a Gen Ed overhaul and how to align with clusters; start fall 2017
 - Gen Ed Committee supports going to a 4 cr. Model for Directions courses and “at least 3 credits” for Connections courses while keeping the overall total of Gen Ed credits the same; message needs to get out to the full faculty.
 - New committee members will be invited to participate in summer work if they so desire
 - When & how do we work on a new assessment plan for the “new” Gen Ed?

- FYS will implement new assessment with roll out of new FYS
- Option thrown out: Training on how to use rubrics for any Gen Ed course could be offered during fall 2017/Jan 2018 enabling assessment of directions/connections to start in spring 2018; this would provide a little more info/data for NEASC Interim Report
- Needs a project leader

Update on General Education Coordinator

- Faculty line for Gen Ed Coordinator (some Gen Ed teaching responsibility) has been approved (has not been determined whether it would be a tenure track or not)
- Job description has yet to be written
- Committee supports an internal search
- Will be important for this position to be permanent
- Will be important for an evaluation of this person to be clearly outlined

Other:

- Should we begin to consider sunset renewals again next year? Revisit at the next Gen Ed Committee
- Fall 2018 Interim NEASC Report due
- May 31-June 3 AACU Gen Ed Assessment Conference (another round in November)

Next meeting: May 8, 2017!