

**General Education Curriculum Committee
Meeting of May 6, 2014, 12:00**

Minutes

Attending (Voting): Bradley, Brueggemann, Cobourn, Desoky, Futrell, Pack, Reynolds, Singleton, Song, Swanson

(Non-Voting): Billingsley, Carden, Dietrich, Gilchrist, Karega, Reed

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of March 28, 2014, were approved.

Recognition of Outgoing Members

Billingsley and Singleton thanked the membership for their service. Outgoing members include Carter, Masolo, Tillquist and the two student reps. Reynolds and Cobourn will return for an additional three-year term. Karega was recognized for her invaluable work as General Education Assessment Coordinator and congratulated on the earning of her doctoral degree. Karega thanked the GECC for her rewarding experience personally and professionally on the administrative side of higher education. In August, she will begin her faculty position at Oberlin College and will be greatly missed at UofL. Her successor is not yet named.

CD Petition Update

Three out of four CD petitions were approved. A replacement for Masolo will be needed on the subcommittee.

General Education Assessment Update

Karega reported that 210 documents are being uploaded for the Written Communication assessment on May 17. Of the 21 assessors, many of them teach the WC courses. At the May 16 training workshop, readers will practice applying the rubrics to the documents. All are coded for ENGL 101, 102 and 105 composition courses except one. The report will be generated using the new template. Since it would be timely for the English/Composition Department to see the results for faculty training before the fall semester begins, Karega will write and share the report electronically in the early summer.

Newly Approved General Education Provisions

Billingsley distributed the two general education requirement provisions concerning 1) AA/AS degree transfer students and 2) Mathematics general-education alternatives for students with documented disabilities in mathematics (see attachment). Both were approved by the Provost effective Summer 2014. The Deans will have an opportunity to respond before it is included in the Summer 2014-Spring 2015 catalog.

Dietrich and the A&S staff were recognized for their efforts regarding the math disabilities provision. Billingsley's commentary in the attachment outlines the process of determination regarding this non-visible disability. Brueggemann offered to work with Patus regarding any socioeconomic issues related to testing.

Reed commented that any substitute/alternative courses that satisfy the mathematics general education requirement would need to be included in degree audit.

Next Meeting

The first meeting of the fall semester is set for September 12 at 2:30 p.m.

Prepared by Kathy Carden

MEMORANDUM

May 5, 2014

TO: Council of Academic Officers

FROM: Dale B. Billingsley *Dale B. Billingsley*
Professor of English
Vice Provost for Undergraduate Affairs

ABOUT: General Education provisions: (1) AA/AS degree transfers and (2) Math Disabilities

The General Education Curriculum Committee has recommended and the University Provost has approved two provisions concerning general education requirements, effective Summer 2014.

(1) General Education for AA/AS degree transfer students

Students who present the transcript for an AA (Associate of Arts) and/or an AS (Associate of Science) degree from a regionally-accredited institution shall be deemed to have met the core general education requirements. Core general education requirements include the following content areas: Arts and Humanities, Mathematics, Oral Communication, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Natural Sciences, and Written Communication. Students will still be required to complete 6 hours in courses designated Cultural Diversity (CD), at least 3 hours of which will focus on persons of African, Asian/Pacific Islander, Hispanic or Native American ancestry (CD1).

(2) Mathematics general-education alternative for students with documented disabilities in mathematics

A student who believes that his or her inability to complete a course that fulfills the Mathematics General Education Requirement is a result of a disability should contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC), which will outline the process for documenting such a disability, explain what courses can be substituted if a disability is diagnosed, and will make clear to the student that such a substitution will make it impossible to take classes for which GER Mathematics courses are prerequisite, thus greatly limiting the majors the student can elect.

On the basis of appropriate documentation, the Disability Resource Center will render its judgment about whether the student has a disability that warrants the substitution of an approved course for a GER Mathematics course. The DRC will forward its decision and any recommendation of a substitution to the College of Arts and Sciences Dean's liaison to the Admissions and Appeals Committee, who will keep a record of such approvals to enable yearly reporting of numbers to the Arts and Sciences Admissions and Appeals Committee, the university General Education Curriculum Committee, and the Department of Mathematics; the Dean's liaison will then forward the approval to the student's academic adviser, who will notify the student, provide any additional advice about substitute courses, and enter the approved substitution into the student's academic plan. The Dean's liaison will also notify the student's academic adviser if the student has been determined not to have a disability.

The first provision extends to all AA/AS degree transfer students the same benefit that is provided by the general-education transfer framework for graduates of Kentucky public institutions of higher education, except that the courses to meet the Cultural Diversity competency will be required of students transferring from institutions other than Kentucky public colleges and universities.

The second provision establishes a regular process by which students claiming the disability can be assessed and granted an alternative means to meet the requirement. Heretofore, students making this claim—usually fewer than one per year—have been granted an *ad hoc* variance by the University Provost. This provision is intended to regularize the processing and records-keeping for such variances.

Questions concerning the first provision can be directed to the Office of Credit Evaluation Services in the Office of Undergraduate Admissions (852-5812). Questions concerning the mathematics variance can be directed to the Disability Resource Center (852-6938) or to the Office of the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Affairs (852-5209).

Copied:

Dr. Jackie Singleton, School of Dentistry

Dr. Bernadette Walter, Kelley PSC

Ms. Cathy Patus, Disability Resource Center

Mr. Scott Burks, University Registrar

Mr. Wes Partin, Credit Evaluation Services