

**General Education Curriculum Committee
Meeting of January 13, 2017, 2:30**

Minutes

Attending: Barrow, Carden (staff), Cobourn, Cooksey, Desoky, Fernandez, Fuselier, Gilchrist, Libe, Myers, Partin, Patton, Riedel, Seif, Shanahan, Singleton, Wiggins-Romesburg, Willey
Absent: Bertacco, Billingsley, Futrell, Hagan, Howarth, Pack, Reynolds, Wright

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of December 9, 2016, were approved.

General Education Roster

The updated general education membership roster was provided. Fuselier was acknowledged as the A&S representative from the dean's office while Dietrich is on sabbatical. Bertacco will return this semester as the A&S Curriculum Committee representative.

General Education Course Listing

Carden announced that the official 2017-2018 general education course listing will be posted to the general education web site after January 15, the deadline for CIFs.

Update on CD Petitions

Wiggins-Romesburg reported that one of two CD petitions was approved in December and that seven additional proposals will be considered for January.

Update on Cardinal Core Proposal

Willey reported that the Task Force met on January 5. Based on comments received from the university community, the following changes were made to the Cardinal Core Proposal:

- 1) The second general-education writing requirement was reinstated, changing the WC requirement to six hours rather than requiring only three hours of composition;
- 2) Consequently, the proposed three-hour elective was replaced by this additional WC course, preventing an increase in the total number of required hours.
- 3) The diversity language was modified on December 2 and further tweaked following discussion at the A&S Faculty Assembly.
- 4) The preamble will be edited to make the language more inspiring to students and then voted on by the Task Force.

Riedel raised concern about the feasibility of a student demonstrating proficiency in WC, OC, and QR skills within a 30-hour time frame. Libe explained why this policy cannot be effectively enforced and how it would penalize students. New advising models will help keep students more on track. Riedel further commented that 48 hours is more doable, especially since students can't always get into the courses that they need.

To rectify this concern and to stay within the spirit of the general education program, the GECC recommended a wording change to the talking points, changing “must” to “should” in the sentence “Students **should** show proficiency in skills (AC OC, QR) before completing 30 degree-applicable credit hours at UofL.” The rationale for this change is based on current factors and tracking mechanisms that do not allow for enforcement of a 30-hour rule without causing barriers for students.

The Task Force has offered to speak to any unit if that would be helpful, or units can use the provided “talking points” for the basic defining features of the Cardinal Core Program.

Willey concluded that an up or down vote on the finalized version of the proposal is needed from the units.

***ACTION:** Shanahan will include Libe’s recommendation as an edit for quick approval of the Task Force by e-mail, and then post updates to the proposal on the general education web site. Carden will distribute the revised talking points.

Spring 2017 General Education Assessment

Shanahan announced two upcoming assessments: 1) Written Communication and 2) Natural Sciences. The **WC assessment** is scheduled on February 18, and the training will be conducted on the morning of February 17. About 300 artifacts were collected but more are expected with the inclusion of dual credit courses this semester. The **Natural Sciences assessment** will take place in May and includes the departments of Anthropology, Biology, Chemistry, Geography & Geosciences and Physics, along with Health and Sport Sciences in Education. It was noted that Biology uses labs to capture quality artifacts due to issues with capturing written artifacts from large lecture courses. During the last round of assessments there were few artifacts from Chemistry, and Physics was difficult to assess because of computations. A strategy is being devised to remedy these issues.

Wiggins-Romesburg is looking for readers, specifically readers from a broad range of backgrounds who have taught general education courses. She would welcome suggested readers for both the WC and NS assessments.

Singleton inquired about possible changes in the assessment model. Shanahan spoke of mechanisms being put in place to obtain feedback from the units and to better determine the impact that general education curriculum is having on students. Efforts to gain feedback from departments on how they are using the assessment results are part of closing the assessment loop. Involvement in the AAC&U Multi-State Collaborative, using VALUE rubrics, will be considered as part of the new General Education Program. The AAC&U values rubrics align well with UofL’s student learning outcomes and would allow for impact assessment using nationally normed rubrics. Gilchrist believes that this process will be a better way to assess student work longer term, providing data less limited than the CAAP assessment method.

Upcoming Meetings

The GECC will meet again on February 17, 2017, at 2:30 p.m.

Prepared by Kathy Carden