

General Education Coordinating Committee, Minutes, February 6, 2015

Present: Armando Valdez, School of Business; Roger Erikson, Art Department; Beth Bonnstetter, Chair of GECC, Mass Communications; Jeremy Yeats, HPPE. *Ex Officio*: Geoffrey Johnson, Library ; Margaret Doell, Assistant Vice-President for Academic Affairs; Carol Guerrero-Murphy, Liaison for Inclusive Excellence; Pat Bryson, Institutional Research

Discussion items:

Margaret explained that GECC needs to move forward with and administer general education assessment. HLC 4 committee needs a plan from GECC by May. A discussion ensued with Armando stating that GECC should explain in the plan that we tried another plan but it did not work out. Margaret indicated this would not suffice, and that GECC needs to provide a summary and a replacement plan; that results are needed based on which changes need to be made. Margaret explained a history of GECC, what its roles are and why.

What is needed is a plan that 1) Lays out how the plan will be administered; 2) Explains the timeline and timecycle for assessment; 3) disseminates that information to the department chairs.

Beth proposed that GECC vote on one of two plans: 1) GECC will administer the ACT CAAP during AY 2015-16. GECC members would be trained on how to administer it, and would be responsible for working with chairs in their area to recruit 25% of graduating seniors. 2) GECC will develop an alternative form of assessment, one in which evidence is collected and evaluated based on the AACU rubrics. Whichever is adapted, during Spring 15, GECC will establish the timeline for data collection, analysis, application to the general education goals and curriculum, and dissemination to department chairs. That plan will be written up and given to chairs, members of GECC, HLC 4, and added to the Assessment Plan. Armando stated that for either of those to work, GECC needs more resources, but Margaret stated that there are none available. Carol suggested mentioning the need for the resources in the plan. One thing that does need to be worked out is how to include Extended Studies students in the assessment.

The need also exists for a 5-year (or other time table) revision of the assessment plan, which should also be discussed in the plan to be created this semester. There needs to be a clause stating that general education goals will be reviewed on the same cycle, after data collection. The goals also need to align with the vision, mission, and strategic plan and with the state of Colorado standards. GECC needs to decide how to map the goals with the evaluation, explain how evaluation occurred, and or to list the goals and map with the assessment tool and with the mission and vision of ASU.

There was discussion of the NSSE with Pat.

We discussed the difficulties getting the committee together for a quorum and agreed that voting members who must miss a meeting should send a proxy or even resign from the committee in order for their area to appoint someone who can attend.

For the vote regarding the proposed plans for assessing graduating students achievement with General Education learning outcomes, additional discussion of the proposals will be held on 2/16 when other voting members of the committee are able to attend a second rendition of this current meeting; voting by email will follow.

Discussed strategies to motivate students to take a capstone test, whether via program/department or as part of a campus-wide effort.

Discussed that the assessment plan must also identify areas where GECC needs administrative support.

Action:

Karla Hardesty committed to completing a report on the prior years of the CAPP ACT assessment for GECC review. We already have 4 years of existing senior year data.

GECC will also create a dissemination plan for the report, so that programs and GECC may make necessary recommendations regarding curriculum and student attainment of the Gen Ed Goals.

It was agreed, with Margaret's concurrence, that GECC could focus on using our prior assessment information, determine our ongoing plan, but not administer the CAPP this spring. GECC will vote on whether to administer the ACT CAAP this spring, or use an alternative assessment. This will be voted on Feb. 17.

Agreed that Extended Studies must be part of the assessment plan, but in what capacity is not known just yet.

It was suggested that once the report is done, then Academic Council, HLC Steering Committee, and Faculty Senate will help determine how to communicate and use the results.