

# General Education Committee (GEC)

Minutes: Monday, November 13, 2017, 4 pm  
Old Main 106

**SCOPE:** GEC is responsible for providing quality and oversight of all of the General Education courses offered at SUU, and it is expected to ensure compliance with state-mandated policies on General Education and alignment with SUU's strategic and academic plans.

#### GEC RESPONSIBILITIES\*

1. Work with faculty, staff, and students to ensure SUU offers and maintains a comprehensive, assessable, and dynamic general education program that meets the agreed upon institutional learning outcomes and goals.

2. Develop and coordinate the GEC's operation in cooperation with the University Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (UUCC)

3. Provide oversight of the General Education courses offered at SUU.

4. Work with the Center of Excellence for Teaching and Learning (CETL) to help support faculty teaching effectiveness in general education courses.

*\*See SUU Policy 6.8.3 for additional details about the GE Committee*

**Call to Order:** 4:00 pm

**Present:** John Allred, John Belk, Anne Diekema, Daniel Eves, Lindsay Fullerton, Jon Karpel, Katya Konkle, Johnny MacLean, Krystal McCoy, James Sage, Paul Schneider, Madalyn Swanson, and Bonny Rayburn.

## I. Approval of Minutes

### A. Approval of prior GE Committee meeting minutes (October 16, 2017, in Canvas)

- Approved unanimously with the following changes
  - Correct spelling on Krystal's name
  - Change the word "Agenda" to "Minutes" in header

## II. Announcements

### A. Summary of "What's an Educated Person?" conference (November 2-3, Midway, UT)

- Great opportunity to hear about the state wide efforts to improve general education and to align general education with national trends.
- Committee members enjoyed the charrette activity. Perhaps this can be a good activity for the CETL.
- Anne brought back a document regarding different ways to look at GE, and they will be using it in the Resources Work Group.
- There are many different GE models and it was interesting to think about ways we can use different ideas to improve our model.
- This conference is really educational and inspirational.
- Johnny encouraged committee members to consider attending next year.

### B. First Year Seminar (SUU 1000) Update

- The recent discussion is full of twists and turns.
- Something is changing in our integrated learning knowledge area, but how that change will play out is up in the air right now.

## III. Discussion Items

### A. GE Curriculum Management Workgroup

1. HIST 2200 proposal for new GE designation (see attachments)
  - Approved unanimously.

2. Summary of Life Sciences curriculum review (see attachments)
  - Need short summary for Deans regarding this curriculum review process.
  - Very few issues arose.
  - We will recommend that syllabi can have links to ELOs to avoid incorrect information being listed.
  - Johnny will finalize the draft report and draft emails. Once this is done they will be sent out to the chairs. They will include guiding questions to prompt conversations about general education, and it will be up to the chairs to decide whether they will use them or not.

#### **B. GE Assessment Workgroup**

1. Discuss faculty ELO/KLO survey results (see attachments)
  - We sent the survey out, and we received 57 completed responses.
  - Some colleges were better represented than others, but the number of responses per college/school was somewhat representative of their respective sizes.
  - The committee engaged in a brief discussion of survey results.
  - The Assessment Work Group will continue the discussion to find appropriate action regarding the course-based assessment of ELOs.

#### **C. GE Resources Workgroup**

1. Discuss website plan and progress
  - The workgroup looked at the website and made some new work assignments.
  - Anne checked all of the links to ensure they are still live.
  - The work group continues to identify actions to make it a little more user friendly for faculty (inward-facing) and students (outward-facing).
  - Workgroup members are prepared to train faculty to properly load an ELO rubric into a Canvas assignment to fulfill the assessment requirement. We still need to come up with some kind of strategy to remind faculty to report their assessment data. James/Brad will send an email to campus, and Krystal/Johnny will work with Jen Hunter to include a message on every faculty member's Canvas homepage.

#### **D. Other**

1. Idea for a 6-credit integrated GE initiative (see attachment)
  - President has made it very clear that he sees a lot of value in components of the Jumpstart program.
  - One of those values being an increased retention rate for students who participate in Jumpstart.
  - He sees Jumpstart as being a faculty-driven retention tool.
  - Asked us to think about those components of Jumpstart and the GE program that could be utilized and scaled up to serve more students.
  - Right now Jumpstart reaches 80 – 100 students.
  - Would love to get feedback on the attached draft before meeting with the Provost and President.
  - The idea is to solicit course proposals from faculty that combine two knowledge areas in a six-credit course.
  - The six-credit course would be co-taught by two faculty members.
  - The Curriculum Management Work Group will discuss this in more detail.

**IV. Adjourn** – Meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

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*Information Items:*

**Essential Learning Outcomes: Five-Year Assessment Cycle**

- 2015-2016: Communication (All forms), Creative Thinking, Critical Thinking
- 2016-2017: Digital Literacy, Information Literacy, Inquiry/Analysis.
- 2017-2018: Problem Solving, Quantitative Literacy, Teamwork
- 2018-2019: Civic Engagement, Ethical Reasoning, Intercultural Knowledge
- 2019-2020: Life Long Learning, Integrative Learning, Comprehensive Review

**Fall 2017 Meeting Schedule:**

- Monday, September 18 from 4:00-5:30 pm in OM 106
- Monday, October 16 from 4:00-5:30 pm in OM 106
- Monday, November 13 from 4:00-5:30 pm in OM 106
- Monday, December 11 from 4:00-5:30 pm in OM 106
- Meetings of the subcommittee work groups to be determined by subcommittees.

**Shared Google Drive:**

- Root folder: <https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B0WaVpEGNXcnbDIMbU8zZE9GYkk>
- Sub-folders included for each GE workgroup, as well as other resource materials.
  - GE Curriculum Management:  
<https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B0WaVpEGNXcnaEJ6ajM2ZWFZd00>
  - GE Assessment:  
<https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B0WaVpEGNXcnTDhucl9Vb2RtM28>
  - GE Resources:  
<https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B0WaVpEGNXcnRkJkQnIBYVNIaHc>

*NWCCU Accreditation Standards Related to General Education and Assessment:*

**1. Learning Outcomes (see NWCCU Standard 2.C.10):**

- A. The General Education components of SUU's baccalaureate degree programs and transfer associate degree programs have identifiable and assessable learning outcomes.
- B. The GE learning outcomes are stated in relation to the institution's mission and learning outcomes for SUU's baccalaureate degree programs and transfer associate degree programs.

**2. Assessment of Student Learning (see NWCCU Standard 4.A.3):**

- A. SUU has an effective, regular, and comprehensive system of assessment of student achievement of the GE Learning outcomes.
- B. SUU demonstrates that students who complete the GE program wherever offered and however delivered achieve the identified GE learning outcomes.
- C. Faculty with teaching responsibilities are responsible for evaluating student achievement of clearly identified GE learning outcomes.

**3. Use of Assessment Results (see NWCCU Standard 4.B.2):**

- A. SUU uses the results of its assessment of student learning related to the GE learning outcomes to inform academic and learning-support planning and practices that lead to enhancement of student learning achievements of the GE learning outcomes.
- B. Results of student learning assessments related to the GE learning outcomes are made available to appropriate constituencies in a timely manner.

GEC Meetings	<b>Task &amp; Discussion Items</b>	
September 18, 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome</li> <li>• Committee expectations</li> <li>• Reviewing and constituting work groups</li> <li>• American Institutions pinch point</li> <li>• CSIS 1000, LM 1010, &amp; First Year Experience (FYE)</li> </ul>	<b>Work Group Meetings</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Curriculum Management:</b> Meet with FYE before October GEC meeting to discuss CSIS/LM integration.</li> <li>• <b>Resources:</b> Focus on updating and improving website.</li> <li>• <b>Assessment:</b> Review and prepare faculty survey, and read current draft of assessment plan.</li> </ul>	September-October
October 16, 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Curriculum:</b> Report to GEC regarding meeting with FYE group.</li> <li>• <b>Resources:</b> Present on website changes.</li> <li>• <b>Assessment:</b> Present on plan for survey distribution.</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Curriculum:</b> Review Life Science courses survey results (due October 13) and prepare to discuss in November.</li> <li>• <b>Resources:</b> Become trained to help new faculty and produce faculty outreach plan.</li> <li>• <b>Assessment:</b> Distribute the survey and collect data.</li> </ul>	October-November
November 13, 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meet with FYE group as large committee.</li> <li>• <b>Curriculum:</b> Report to GEC on Life Science survey results. Vote on HIST 2200.</li> <li>• <b>Resources:</b> Present plan for website updates. Discuss outreach plan regarding the Canvas-based ELO assessment strategy.</li> <li>• <b>Assessment:</b> Present and discuss faculty survey results.</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Curriculum:</b> Discuss the 6-credit integrated GE initiative</li> <li>• <b>Resources:</b> Continue to update the website. Reach out to faculty.</li> <li>• <b>Assessment:</b> Discuss the formal program-level assessment plan. Discuss the faculty survey results</li> </ul>	November-December
December 11, 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Curriculum:</b> Present on the 6-credit integrated GE initiative</li> <li>• <b>Resources:</b> Update on website revision.</li> <li>• <b>Assessment:</b> Present results from the formal program-level assessment plan.</li> </ul>	