Present: John Allred, Joe Baker, John Belk, Carlos Bertoglio, Clint Broadbent, Anne Diekema, Lindsay Fullerton, Jordan Henson, Katya Konkle, Johnny MacLean, Krystal McCoy, Julie Pynn, James Sage, Nathan Werner

Not Present: Randy Johnson, Matt Ogburn

I. Approval of Minutes from April 1, 2019
   A. Approved by general consent

II. Announcements
   A. Welcome and Introduction (and access to Google Drive and Canvas)
      1. Introduction of committee members.
      2. The back of the agenda has the most updated list of committee members and the 2019-2020 meeting schedule.
      3. We have a Google Drive folder and Canvas shell. Google is updated most often but we will try to get Canvas updated as regularly. If a committee member hasn’t received an invite to the Google Drive folder, email Johnny MacLean.
   B. Introduction of Krystal McCoy as Co-Chair
      1. Interim Provost Eves recommended having more of a faculty voice on the General Education Committee leadership. Johnny asked Krystal McCoy to co-chair the committee.
      2. SUU has some commitments around the state with the General Education Task Force that Johnny and James Sage serve on; Krystal will be invited to attend/participate as well.
      3. Krystal will take a more faculty-centered approach, and Johnny will be more institutional-centered.
   C. Conferences
      1. The GEC typically funds some members to go to a couple of conferences each year.
      2. What is an Educated Person? - November 7-8, Little America Hotel, SLC
         a) Especially encourage new GEC members or people who have never gone before to go because it gives a good perspective on the state’s direction on General Education. GE in the state is governed by USHE policy R470.
      3. AAC&U Conference on General Education, Pedagogy, and Assessment - February 20-22, Jacksonville, Florida
         a) Typically send 2-3 people to this conference.
         b) Krystal has some additional ideas of different conferences to get different perspectives; could be a good idea to investigate some other conferences instead of attending this one.
         c) SUU is trying to make GE more student-centric; one potential conference is on Diversity, Equity, & Student Success in New Orleans in March 2020.
         d) During this year’s new student orientation, Krystal staffed a booth to talk to students about General Education and found that students don’t know what the purpose of GE is.
         e) Johnny is wondering if faculty know/agree on what GE is about and if they know about the pressures that are on GE at SUU and state-/nationwide.
            • One pressure is coming from students and parents (in turn legislators) that GE has become irrelevant and is something to “get through as quick as possible.” Also that GE at the university level may be devalued and that high school students can get through their GE program through CE, AP, etc.
            • President Wyatt wants to innovate SUU’s GE approach.
f) How can SUU innovate GE so that it has relevance and has a common focus that faculty know; also so students understand why GE courses will help
them succeed and parents/legislators understand why GE is relevant.

g) One thought is “Why can’t GE be the place where SUU tackles very complicated problems and prepare students to become the problem solvers for things like climate change, social justice, political gridlock, etc.?”

4. If interested in attending either conference, let Johnny and/or Krystal know.

D. GE Learning Community – BridGE
1. This learning community is part of a synergy effort that came out of last year’s AAC&U conference ideas. Provided through CETL.
2. It focuses on how to make GE relevant and conducive to student success. GE courses don’t need to be hermetically sealed off from the rest of the student’s experiences.
   a) Learning Community will have participants create assignments that prepare them for future assignments that they might receive in major courses.
3. Offered every other week in HCC Shooting Star from 2:30-3:45 PM; can either sign up through CETL or show up.
   a) First session is Tuesday, September 17.
   b) Second session will talk about synergy effort across the campus.
   c) Third session will talk about continual improvement and assessment in GE.
   d) Fourth session will have participants talk about/reflect on their own BridGE lesson and deliverables.
4. Krystal will send reminder emails out before each session. Currently 7 people are registered.

E. Goals for Fall 2019
1. Curriculum Management Work Group
   a) Looks at learning outcomes and see if courses are meeting those
   b) Also establishes a way for courses to receive/remove/modify GE designation
   c) Work Group completed a full three-year review cycle last year and will be starting again
   d) Expectation is to meet once a month and report to the full GEC so any proposals for GE designation can be voted on
2. Continual Improvement Work Group
   a) Combination of previous two Work Groups, Assessment and Resources
   b) Purpose is to look for ways to improve GE at SUU, such as:
      • Taking assessment data and figuring out what to do with it
      • Recommending how many new faculty members may be needed to accommodate new GE course sections, based on enrollment growth and projections
      • Tackle GE relevancy questions
      • SynerGE plan
   c) Also expected to meet once a month and report back

III. Discussion Items
A. Establish Work Group membership
   1. Curriculum Management: John Allred, Randy Johnson, Joe Baker, Nathan Werner, Lindsay Fullerton, Patrick Clarke, Katya Konkle
   2. Continual Improvement: Julie Pynn, John Belk, Jordan Henson, Carlos Bertoglio, Clint Broadbent, Anne Diekema, Matt Ogburn

B. SynerGE
   1. GEC members met with Student Success Advisors for a working lunch in March 2019, as well as met with them at their retreat in June 2019. She is working through the qualitative data she gathered from their input. Their input is invaluable because advisors may be the only people on campus who have a chance to sit down and explain the value of the GE program to students.
   2. Krystal is looking to establish ways to meet with students to get their feedback and
perspectives on GE.
   a) Would love to have an open forum this semester
3. Starting faculty effort with the BridGE workshop series
4. Looking for input and ideas to help with the effort
   a) Maybe reach out to alumni?
   b) President Wyatt wants GE to be condensed and more meaningful; how can this be accomplished?
   c) Reach out to staff? (Center for Diversity & Inclusion, etc.)
   d) There is a potential threat to GE in general; we need to improve the program and awareness of the program
   e) SUUSA has weekly Senate meetings on Tuesdays at 11:30 AM in Sterling Church Auditorium. Jordan can put the GEC on agenda to get feedback.
   f) What is the messaging? Can we use Enrollment Management communication? There is no dedicated person to talk about GE at recruiting events, and we need a representative to frame GE appropriately.
   g) Utilize staff at the Career Center and their connections to employers.
   h) Help students and faculty understand the connections between GE courses and future major courses. Other institutions “flag” GE courses that show connections.
5. Overall, there is a low percentage of graduates who get a job in a field related to their major. It’s important to remember that SUU is providing more than technical job training and that the jobs of tomorrow don’t exist today. GE is essential to providing those foundational skills.
   a) Emerging adulthood literature shows they have “gig to gig” type of jobs, with an average of 10 jobs within 5 years. People need to be adaptable, resilient, and innovative.
6. Continuous Improvement Work Group will be tasked to follow through with SynerGE efforts.
C. American Academy of Innovation (AAI)
1. James Sage met with faculty and administrators from American Academy of Innovation (in South Jordan, UT), a public charter school that is has a project-based curriculum. The school has approximately 400-450 students in 6th to 12th grades. They adopted a competency-based education (CBE) approach about one year ago.
2. James would like to explore a way for their high school students to come to SUU and receive college credit for their CBE learning.
3. Utah legislature has mandated that USHE institutions grant CBE high school students credit for their work, but it is still in the hands of faculty on how it is done.
4. It’s important to keep AAI and other opportunities (perhaps with Cedar City’s new Launch High School) on our radar regarding CBE.
IV. Future Agenda Items
   A. Competency-based education exploration
   B. Future of SUU 1000/3000 and the Integrative Knowledge Knowledge Area
   C. Email Johnny or Krystal if anything else comes up.
V. Adjourned at 5:26 PM