

November 20, 2008
General Education Committee Minutes
Jon Inglett, Chair

Meeting began: 12:28 p.m. Meeting adjourned: 1:26 p.m.

Members Present: Mary Turner, Dr. Janet Perry, Doug Gregory, Kayla Fessler, Catherine Kinyon, Jennifer Ball, Jay Ramanjalu, Marybeth McCauley, Ernest Gobert, Max Simmons, Randy Anderson

Members Absent: Dr. Peggy Jordan, Greg Gardner, Dr. Cassie Meeks, Robin McMurry, Dr. Yuthika Kim

Old Business: Minutes were approved (motion made by Kayla Fessler and seconded by Jay Ramanjalu)

New Business:

The committee began by discussing the draft of the outcomes. Jennifer Ball stated that the faculty in her area didn't feel that their students should be assessed since those faculty members do not teach general education courses. Jon explained that the assessment is designed to measure what students should have learned in their general education courses and that assessments would be appropriate if the faculty require their students to complete assignments that would demonstrate that learning.

The committee then went through each outcome and discussed changes that should be made.

Page 2, Social Institutions: subcomponents one and two were changed to say "society" rather than "individual."

Page 4, Global Communities: "major" was deleted from the last subcomponent.

Page 6, Public Speaking: the specific courses from which each sample artifact came were identified.

Page 7, Writing: there was a question about which course was linked to a sample artifact.

Page 8, Science: needs more artifacts

There was some discussion about the need to educate people on campus to make them more comfortable with the assessment purpose and process.

A question was raised about whether all subcomponents of an outcome should be met by each artifact. Committee members agreed that they were all comfortable with the subcomponents.

Another question was raised regarding who is responsible for outcome inclusion within a major and how people should know. There was also some concern that programs are being assessed. The attempt is to see how well general education courses perform before students get to their programs. Assessment helps determine where needs are.

Kayla asked if we have considered mapping our list of general education courses to see where the outcomes fit. General education courses are listed on pages 44 and 45 of the 2008-2009 catalog. Jon agreed that we should address this issue at some to make sure that the courses are teaching what they should be teaching.

Max suggested that we vote on the draft as amended so that it could be sent to the Dean's Council by November 21. Max made the motion and Doug seconded it. The committee unanimously approved the motion.

The committee must discuss the process with faculty in January (Where will the artifacts be housed? How will they be collected?) The process must be kept simple.

Janet then posed five questions that needed to be answered for her office:

1. Are the 35 hours college level? Yes. There was discussion about whether 35 was the appropriate target number of credit hours completed.
2. Would the 35 hours be counted after the fall 2008 semester? Yes. This would be historical data.
3. Would the students have to have earned a C or better for the hours to be counted? No.
4. Would we include hours completed through the cooperative alliance? Yes.
5. Would the 35 hours exclude transfer credit? Yes.

Jon, Catherine, Greg, Max, and Janet or Joyce will meet in December or January to work out the details.

The meeting adjourned.