

General Education Meeting Minutes
March 8, 2018

Began: 12:30 p.m.
Adjourned: 1:10 p.m.

Present: Stacie Warner, Brent Stafford, Dr. Jeff Anderson, Dr. Makenna Green, Dr. Courtney Vahlberg, Dr. Shanna Padgham, Dr. Janet Perry, Dana Tuley-Williams, Mary Turner, Ernest Gobert, John Helton, Dr. Max Simmons, Jennifer Brumley, Michael Boyle, and Charles Myrick

Absent: Dr. Glenne' Whisenhunt and Greg Gardner

Brent Stafford moved that the minutes from the February meeting be accepted. Courtney seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

Next, Ernest addressed the request for additional assessors for writing and math. He said that he hadn't made the request yet because fewer artifacts have been submitted this year. He said that he spoke with Kim Jameson, and she agreed that he should wait to see if additional people would be needed. If more artifacts come in later in the semester, Ernest said that he would take a representative sample so that the assessors wouldn't have to struggle with the numbers they had last summer. The committee agreed that this would be the best course of action. Janet asked if the new academic deans were aware of what the artifacts are, why they are necessary, and if they are encouraging their respective faculty to submit them. Max said that he made sure that they were.

Ernest said he will send an email out to the members of the assessment teams to see if they are still interested in serving as assessors. Last year, approximately 26 writing artifacts were presented to both writing assessment teams. The results were consistent between the two teams with only three artifacts that were scored differently. He asked if the two teams should be normed again. Jeff argued for the importance of norming the teams to insure the consistency of the data. He suggested that when Ernest meets with the two teams that he present one artifact in which there was a discrepancy between the teams. He also said that both teams should assess a sample again.

Three departments—chemistry, biology, and math—now provide a set of uniform questions that can be used as artifacts. The committee agreed that if we expand this practice across departments that we will get a more consistent outcome. Ernest also addressed the fact that there are about 3000 potential students from which artifacts might be submitted, but few are actually accounted for in submissions. We need to request artifacts from more courses to get more diversity in the outcomes. He said to keep encouraging faculty to submit artifacts.

The meeting ended with committee members brainstorming ideas to get more faculty involved in the process. Perhaps the college could have a drawing for those faculty who are submitting artifacts for the first time. At that time, several people needed to leave to prepare for class, so the meeting was adjourned.