

**General Education Committee
April 21, 2011 Meeting Minutes**

Began: 12:35 p.m.
Adjourned: 1:27 p.m.

Present: Jon Inglett, Mary Turner, Catherine Kinyon, Dr. Janet Perry, Doug Gregory, Ernest Gobert, Jay Ramanjalu, Valerie McCarthy, Randy Hopkins, Jeff Cleek, Dr. Max Simmons, Lori Farr, Tamala Zolicoffer, and Dawn Ladiski

Absent: Greg Gardner and Linda Cowan

Max made a motion to approve the March 10 minutes. Lori seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

The discussion began with the suggestion that the committee look at general education outcomes after the HLC site visit in the fall. Has there been any response from divisions regarding changes. It was reported that there have been ongoing conversations about competencies in Health Professions and Social Sciences. Randy suggested comparing the outcomes of online versus on site classes to see if they are achieving at the same level. The good news is that faculty are having conversations about general education outcomes.

Doug reported that the Division of IT is happy with everything. Valerie indicated that Health Professions is encouraging more focus on critical thinking.

Next, Janet discussed some changes that will be made to the HLC process after this year. The college may need to establish a committee to look at the changes. The current system (PEAQ) makes one visit every ten years, and this will disappear completely. Federal issues are pushing these changes.

The New System (Pathways):

1. Candidacy—for institutions/programs just getting started
2. Foundation—for institutions with major issues
3. Open Pathway—10 year cycle

AQIP (Academic Quality Improvement Program)—7 year cycle

- Within first 3 years, upload files (all electronic)
- Year 4, Submit a 25,000 to 35,000 word report that will be evaluated by a team
- Next several years (5 to 9), identify quality proposal (5 to 10 pages) that clearly defines what you are doing

We can get ideas from the website or we can create our own. The new system is more consistently interactive and may increase the workload. We will continue to add information to the evidence file (beginning year 4 and again in year 10. This will include a 25 to 30 page status

update. The commission will then take action to confirm accreditation. The criteria are changing.

It was suggested that it is a good idea to have a team comprised of members from across campus to look at AQIP.

Jon then reported on the general education sessions he had attended. He said that smaller colleges have about a 70% participation rate in assessing general education outcomes as compared with our 10%. He asked how large community colleges can overcome this issue. The next General Education Committee Chairperson will have to decide how to increase participation. Lori suggested that we consider a rotation system.

Identify individuals to champion each outcome. Our programmers could write programs for Datatel to identify specific populations. We could establish portfolios and hold students responsible for contributing artifacts. We could also create a “class” in ANGEL so that artifacts could be sent directly.

The new buzz is “Applied Learning.” This involves learning in the field, service learning, and authentic assessments. Don’t ask students to explain what they have learned. Find a way for them to demonstrate their learning.

At 1:27 p.m., Lori made a motion for the meeting to adjourn. Dawn seconded the motion.