



# Comprehensive Program Review

University System of Georgia

## CPR Report Submitted!

**Thank you for submitting a Comprehensive Program Review Report.** Below is the information you sent on June 30, 2003. *Please note* this is a temporary web page and cannot be bookmarked. You may wish to print this page for your records. You will also receive confirmation via email.

- 1                   **Name:** Edwin A. Rugg
- 2                   **Title:** Director, Center for Institutional Effectiveness
- 3    **Daytime phone:** 770 499 3609
- 4                   **Email:** erugg@kennesaw.edu
- 5                   **Institution:** Kennesaw State University
- 6    **Review Status:** Non-triggered Review
- 7                   **Degree level:** Doctorate
- 8    **Degree acronym:** NA
- 9                   **Degree/Major:** Core Curriculum
- 10                  **CIP Code:** 99999999
- 11                  **College,** Undergraduate Studies  
                  **School/Division:**
- 12                  **Department:**
- 13                  **CPR Plan** Yes  
                  **followed:**
- 14 **Future institutional** Expand and enhance  
      **plans for program:**
- 15 **Plan for resources** add  
      **in this program:**
- 16 **Supplemental file:** CPR FINDINGS to BOR - General Education.doc
- 17                  **File Type:** MS Word
- 18 **CPR Web Addr.:** www.kennesaw.edu/ie

< < [Submit Another CPR](#)

---

**CPR FINDINGS AND PLANS  
FOR THE  
GENERAL EDUCATION PROGRAM  
AT KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY**

**MAJOR FINDINGS ON THE PROGRAM'S QUALITY, PRODUCTIVITY, & VIABILITY**

General Education at KSU is organized to operate like a degree program. The Dean of Undergraduate & University Studies oversees the General Education program and chairs the General Education Council. The Council is representative of the faculty and all instructional departments and serves as the faculty's curriculum committee for the General Education program. Fifteen years ago, the General Education program at KSU replaced its traditional cafeteria model of departmental service courses used to satisfy area requirements with a coordinated and prescribed set of courses, most of which were designed specifically for General Education. Some of the more progressive features of this prescribed program include a computer-based writing-intensive freshman composition sequence, adaptations of nationally recognized and NSF funded curricular innovations in applied math and interdisciplinary science, a global economics course, an interdisciplinary arts appreciation course, an interdisciplinary social issues course, and global perspectives in literature, history, and political science.

The program's self-study and the University Program Review Council were in substantial agreement on the many strengths of KSU's largest educational program. The UPRC judged the overall quality of the program as strong, the overall productivity of the program as strong, and the program as very viable. The Council rated two-thirds of the quality indicators (9 of 14) as strong or very strong, including curricular adherence to national standards, use of advanced instructional technology, advising, preparation of graduates, diversity and global perspective, program recognition, faculty awards, stakeholder satisfaction, and responsiveness to change. Opportunities cited for quality improvement included reducing extensive reliance on part-time faculty, expanding classroom and faculty office support, increasing operational funding--especially for professional travel associated with General Education and workshops for the development of the part-time faculty, strengthening assessment of the program's student learning outcomes, and increasing the visibility and promotion of the program's innovations and notable achievements. Nearly all of the pertinent productivity indicators (5 of 6) were rated by the Council as strong or very strong, including clarity and efficiency of curricular design, required course scheduling and sequencing, required course enrollments, responsiveness to state needs, and contribution to KSU's mission. Opportunities cited for productivity improvement included expanding the instructional faculty and course offerings to meet KSU's continuing enrollment growth, developing alternative strategies to enhance the cost effectiveness of the freshman composition sequence, and developing realistic plans to resolve productivity issues. The Council was highly complimentary of this "excellent program."

### **PLANS FOR IMPROVING THE PROGRAM'S QUALITY, PRODUCTIVITY, & VIABILITY**

Some of the most notable plans for improvement included: refining and implementing an assessment plan that addresses the program's student learning outcomes; expanding the Web site for General Education into a comprehensive resource center for faculty and students; securing more full-time faculty positions that are primarily dedicated to instruction in the General Education program; strengthening the orientation and preparation of the part-time faculty teaching in General Education; raising the university's awareness of and commitment to the importance of General Education and its operation as KSU's largest "program"; continuing and expanding efforts to secure grants and external funds for innovative practices in General Education; enhancing and expanding the CLASS initiative to create learning communities for new freshmen involving General Education and KSU 1101 courses; and seeking ways to better manage class sizes and growing enrollment demands in General Education.

### **NEW RESOURCE ALLOCATIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT**

Kennesaw State's funding and expenditures per FTE student have been substantially below average throughout the university's relatively brief history. New funding and facilities have lagged KSU's exceptional rate of growth over the years. Consequently, the student/faculty ratio at KSU is exceptionally high, and the institution would need another 150 full-time faculty to reach the average of the other state and regional universities in the USG. In that context, there is substantial justification for enhancing most degree programs with additional investments in full-time faculty support. However, this review and its recommendations were completed in the context of a statewide and national economic downturn, significant budget cutbacks in the State's, the University System's, and KSU's operating budgets, and little prospect of KSU receiving special catch-up funding from state appropriations in the near term.

The Council strongly recommended program enhancement including an increase in full-time faculty dedicated to General Education. Additional Master's level instructors were recommended in particular. Funding for such enhancements was expected to come from institutionally redirected and self-generated sources.

### **PLANS FOR INCREASING PROGRAM PRODUCTIVITY ABOVE THRESHOLD**

Not applicable. This program was not triggered for special review by the System Office.