



General Education Council (GEC)
Special Meeting
May 1, 2019
3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
HS1002

Voting Members Present:

Matt Laposata (Biology - Ecology, Evolution, and Organismal)
Joy Brookshire (Biology - Molecular and Cellular)
Huggins Msimanga (Chemistry)
Chao Mei (College of Computing and Software Engineering)
Meredith Ginn (Communication)
Jeanne Bohannon (Composition)
Natalie Berry (Dance)
Tim Mathews (Economics)
Nirmal Trivedi (First-Year and Transition Studies: First-Year Seminar or Learning Communities)
Brad Suther (Geography)
Mia Oberlton (Health Promotion and Physical Education (Coordinator for WELL 1000))
Ryan Ronnenberg (History)
Lynn Stallings (Honors College)
Trina Queen (Interdisciplinary Studies)
JoAnn LoVerde-Dropp (Literature)
Bruce Thomas (Mathematics)
Susan Rouse (Philosophy)
Prabha Padukka (Physics)
Jen Willard for Corinne McNamara (Psychology)
Nancy Burney (Statistics)
Margaret Baldwin Pendergrass (Theatre and Performance Studies)

Non-voting Members Present:

Kris DuRocher (Academic Affairs)
Amy Jones (Academic Affairs)

Guest(s):

Chien-pin Li (College of Humanities and Social Sciences)
Carmen Skaggs (College of Humanities and Social Sciences)

The meeting began at 3:30 p.m.

- I. Old Business
 - a. Approval of past minutes

- The April 17, 2019 meeting was cancelled. Minutes from the March 20, 2019 meeting are pending approval at the next regular GEC meeting in August 2019.

II. New Business (Kris DuRocher)

a. Professional Development Survey Results (Handout)

- The GEC was asked to provide feedback on professional development topics to be considered for AY20. In Question 1, from preliminary survey three themes emerged: 1) Ensuring Quality Education in GenEd Courses; 2) Understanding Assessment; and 3) Theory and Research.

b. Institutional Requirements Update

- UPCC and Faculty Senate voted on the removal of the institutional requirements of WELL 1000 and KSU 1101, recommended as effective fall 2020.
- The policy is removed, not the offering of the courses.
- The courses will be counted in program electives or if added to the program of study.

c. USG General Education Council Update (Handout)

- In November 2018, the USG General Education Council recommended a revision of the core curriculum (handout pages 1-3).
- The recommendation was presented and supported by RACA in February 2019 (handout pages 4-7).
- The recommendation was then presented at RACEA on April 25, 2019.
- The recommendations focused on these current concerns:
 - Inconsistency in offerings from the grandfathering of institutional courses
 - Communication about Areas A-E to students and the public
 - Checklist model approach and disconnect from the majors
 - Common course numbering system prescribed but not followed
 - USG approval process needs revision of scope
 - Learning outcomes at the institutional level
 - Flexibility of institutions to focus on missions
 - Scope and timeline are not yet clear
 - Summer workgroup will be put into place
 - There should be a better sense in the fall.
 - Implications for KSU:
 - Recommendation to hold on the Student Learning Outcomes
 - Need to balance changes that can help students with the understanding that the core may be shifted.
 - This year's work was a necessary foundation to understanding KSU's General Education.

d. Assessment

- Per Danielle Buehrer, the GEC will hold on a university-wide assessment for two years. However, individual departments can continue to do assessments individually.

e. Clarification on General Education and Core Curriculum

- What is General Education?

- The foundation of skills, knowledge, and values that prepare students for success in their majors and in their personal and professional lives after graduation.
- General Education outcomes should be encouraged throughout the undergraduate experience.
- What is Core Curriculum?
 - A part of the General Education program currently in Areas A-E.
 - Where skills and ideas are introduced.
- f. Looking Forward . . . Faculty Director of GenEd's Summer Agenda
 - Complete the annual General Education report
 - Develop professional development opportunities
 - Continue General Education curriculum support
 - Complete Faculty Senate annual report
 - Create a General Education Council handbook
 - Continue to develop a strategic plan for General Education

III. Other Discussion

- a. Syllabus template or syllabus language? See Curriculum Resources page. Keep using the old language on the General Education page. However, this can be a future discussion.

IV. Upcoming Events/Announcements

- a. The next meeting of the General Education Council will be the retreat on Thursday, August 15, 2019 from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. in Prillaman Hall, Room 1101.

The meeting ended at 4:38 p.m.

kd/ar/djh

Attachments:

2018-2019 GEC Feedback Survey

Handouts – Professional Development and USG proposed changes