

**GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Minutes for Meeting #8 – March 3, 2016**

- 1. The meeting was called to order at 3:08 p.m.** on Thursday, March 3, 2016 in Library Conference Room A, Chairperson Kinnie presiding.

The following members were present: Senators Boudreaux-Bartels, Mead, and Williams; Professors Bide, DeCesare, Echevarria, Irvine, and Orr; Vice Provost Beauvais and Dean Richmond.

Members absent: Professors Lloyd and Stout; and Ms. Boyd-Colvin.

- 2.** Minutes of GE Committee Meeting #7, February 4, 2016 were approved as amended.

- 3. Announcements and Reports**

- Chairperson Kinnie reported that, at the February 18 Faculty Senate Meeting, a motion from the floor to strike the phrases *U.S.* and *America* from the description of the Diversity and Inclusion outcome was defeated.
- Chairperson Kinnie announced that Vice Provost Beauvais had been appointed temporary leader of implementation of the new GE program. She will serve in this capacity until a General Education Director is appointed.
- Chairperson Kinnie reported that he had been interviewed by student reporters who had published an article about the new General Education Program in the student newspaper, the Good 5 Cent Cigar.

- 4. Ongoing Business**

- New submission guidelines for Grand Challenge courses (to be posted on the implementation website) were reviewed.
- The Committee discussed the suitability of topics shells (with changing topics) as Grand Challenge (general education) courses. Course submissions from the Department of English were considered as examples of Grand Challenge topics courses. The Committee considered the existing practice: any new topic requires the approval of the department chair, college dean, and the General Education

Committee. Once the new shells are established with their associated two outcomes, new topics will continue to require approval by the General Education Committee. The Committee moved approval of allowing topics courses to be approved as Grand Challenge courses. The motion passed.

- c. The Committee discussed allowing transfer credit, and general education credit of two outcomes, for courses that have been developed as Grand Challenge courses (ABC 123 G) for which the root course (ABC 123) is not also offered. The Committee moved that courses with direct equivalencies would meet general education outcomes but not meet the Grand Challenge requirement (if the equivalency course is a Grand Challenge course). The motion was approved.
- d. The Committee reviewed University Manual Section 8.20.15:

8.20.15 Eligible students may have the requirement waived in any of the Competencies (B) or Responsibilities (C) of the Student Learning Outcomes by successfully passing a proficiency test before the beginning of their second semester of full-time registration. The General Education Committee shall determine criteria for eligibility no later than February of each year so that new students may be notified of these criteria as part of their Orientation. In February, the departments also shall report on these criteria and the results of the current year's proficiency testing to the General Education Committee.

The Committee approved a motion to remove this from the Manual because it was no longer relevant.

- e. The Committee discussed the approval process of Honors topics courses (HPR course code). It was proposed that initial HPR offerings for the new general education program be reviewed by the two outcome panels and the Honors Program and Visiting Scholars (HPVS) Committee. Once the HPR shells were established, new topics would be approved by the HPVS Committee and forwarded to the General Education Committee for approval.
- f. The Committee discussed and approved a change to the course approval process: all new course submissions would be sent simultaneously to both outcome panels and the Grand Challenge panel, as necessary.

5. New Business

- a. The Committee discussed outcome credits for paired lecture and lab courses (ex. PHY 203 and 273) and other sequences in which students pass one part but not the other. The Committee approved a motion that students taking courses in which there is an approved general education sequence must pass all courses in the sequence in order to receive general education credit.

- b.** The Committee discussed options for replacing the awkward phrasing in the manual describing the newly-titled Diversity and Inclusion outcome. The committee decided on, “Develop and exercise responsibilities relating to diversity and inclusion.”
- c.** The Committee discussed a name for the new program. Several options were considered. The committee decided to vote online. Members would be permitted to make additional suggestions.
- d.** The Committee discussed the minutes of the March 2 meeting of the Subcommittee on Assessment of General Education (SAGE). The minutes summarized Phase I of the assessment plan that will begin in Fall 2016 (three outcomes per semester will be assessed over the next two years with a small sampling of courses and students).

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Neff