

**GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE  
Minutes for Meeting #9 – April 7, 2016**

- 1. The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.** on Thursday, April 7, 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, Lloyd, and Orr; Vice Provost Beauvais, Dean Richmond, and Ms. Boyd-Colvin.

Member absent: Professors Stout

Guest: Professor Nassersharif, Department of Mechanical, Industrial and & Systems Engineering

- 2.** Professor Nassersharif addressed the Committee on the subject of the *Integrate and Apply* student learning outcome. The Department of Mechanical, Industrial and & Systems Engineering in the College of Engineering (COE) had proposed that their departmental capstone design courses be submitted to the general education program and assess the *Integrate and Apply* outcome. Professor Nassersharif was concerned that adapting these courses to the *Integrate and Apply* rubric would require altering them adversely relative to the standards of the COE accreditation agency. He was also concerned that, as the rubric changed over time, these courses would be required to change also. He explained that these courses were central to the Mechanical Engineering curriculum and he was concerned about modifications to qualify in the general education program. Professor Nassersharif was informed that the *Integrate and Apply* rubric was stable. Discussion followed. It was suggested that the MCE capstone design courses be submitted to the program and allow the approval process to take place. Professor Nassersharif left the meeting at 3:30 PM.
- 3.** Minutes of GE Committee Meeting #8, March 3, 2016 were approved.

- 4. Ongoing Business**

- a.** 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.

At its March 3, 2016 meeting, the Committee had approved a motion to propose to the Senate that this be removed from the Manual but questions had arisen about its relationship to the college level examination program (CLEP). Chairperson Kinnie confirmed with Senior Associate Director Humphrey (Enrollment Services) that removing this section would have no impact on the CLEP. Chairperson Kinnie reported that he had consulted with the chair of the Department of Writing and Rhetoric who was supportive of eliminating the proficiency testing. The Committee reiterated its decision to move the proposals to the Senate to eliminate this section.

- b.** The Committee discussed finalizing approval of the course proposals that had been submitted to the new general education program. Dean Richmond had indicated that as many courses as possible would be needed by June 1 for freshman orientation. The following process was approved: the Faculty Senate Office will cease course proposal distribution to the approval panels on May 3 (although the Senate Office would continue to log any that are received), panels will attempt to complete the review and approval of all courses in their purview by June 1, and the use of panels as approvers will cease after June 1. The Committee discussed the need for continued approval of proposals after the end of the semester (summer) by a subcommittee of the full Committee membership. The Committee set another meeting time (May 12, 1-3 PM) to discuss the need for summer committee work.
- c.** The Committee discussed the ongoing effort to create a name for the new general education program. No name was established.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Neff