

**GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE  
Minutes for Meeting #10 – May 12, 2016**

- 1. The meeting was called to order at 1:07 p.m.** on Thursday, May 12, 2016 in the President's Conference Room, Green Hall, Chairperson Kinnie presiding.

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

Members absent: Professors Bide, Lloyd, Stout, and Dean Richmond.

Guests: Faculty Senate Chair Sullivan, Vice Provost Libutti, Professors Derbyshire, DiCioccio, Howard, Maier-Speredelozzi, and Mr. Rooney.

- 2.** Minutes of GE Committee Meeting #9, April 7, 2016 were approved.

- 3. Announcements/Correspondence/Reports**

- a.** Chairperson Kinnie announced that the search committee for the new position of Director of General Education had scheduled a forum on May 17 at 3:30 PM for faculty and staff to meet with Professor DiCioccio, the candidate for the position.
- b.** Vice Provost Libutti and Mr. Rooney presented freshman enrollment data for fall 2016 based on the May 1 deposit deadline and discussed the implications regarding the number of seats needed in general education courses by June 1 for freshman orientation. He described the Learning Communities, how enrollment is structured for those courses, and the courses still needed (pending full approval) for those groups. Discussion followed. Committee members were informed that more Grand Challenge courses would be needed for Spring 2017. The Vice Provost and Mr. Rooney left the meeting at 1:30 PM.

- 4. Ongoing Business**

- a.** The Committee discussed finalizing approvals of the course proposals that had been submitted to the new general education program and the need for continued approvals throughout the summer. Chairperson Kinnie indicated that he would solicit availability through email to establish dates for summer meetings.

- b.** General education approval panel chairs shared their course review standards and strategies with one another and other Committee members. They used rubrics from the courses that they had approved as examples. The Committee agreed that the student learning outcomes should be stated on the syllabus. There was debate about the degree to which outcome elements should be included on the syllabus. The Committee also agreed that there should be good correlation between the syllabus and the rubric and that assignments should be assessable. Professor Maier-Speredelozzi pointed out the need to approve, with consistency, paired lecture and lab courses and reiterated that a student may not fulfill the outcomes without passing both courses. The Committee agreed that it was permissible to request a sample assignment from a course proposer as informational, if necessary. Vice Provost Beauvais outlined the three criteria for Grand Challenge courses: inclusion of complex issues in areas of contemporary significance, interdisciplinary approach, and recognition and application of ethical principles. She noted that there is no rubric for Grand Challenge courses. She said that in order to meet the interdisciplinary requirement, there must be evidence of sustained use of two disciplines that culminates in a major assignment or experience.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Neff