

FACULTY SENATE

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MEMORANDUM

TO: URI Faculty Senators

FROM: Joëlle Rollo-Koster, Chair, Faculty Senate

CC: Members of the General Education Committee
Members of the General Education Implementation Steering Team

DATE: August 25, 2015

SUBJECT: Special Meeting of the Faculty Senate, September 10, 2015, 3:30 PM



A Special Meeting of the URI Faculty Senate will be held on Thursday, September 10, 2015, 3:30 – 5:00 PM in the Galanti Lounge, University Library. The purpose of this Special Meeting is to discuss the Report of the General Education Committee, July 30, 2015 in which changes to the General Education Program are proposed.

The General Education Committee met many times over the summer and is recommending the following changes to the structure of the General Education program:

1. Separate Arts & Humanities into two distinct Student Learning Outcomes:
 - Humanities
 - Arts & Design
2. Eliminate the Integrative Student Learning Outcome
3. Limit the number of general education courses within a student's major course code

The total number of Student Learning Outcomes (11) will remain the same and Grand Challenge will remain as an overlay to approved courses.

These changes were prompted by faculty reactions to the implementation workshops held in April and May 2015 and by concerns that general education guidelines established by NEASC for aesthetic appreciation, historical perspectives, and ethical considerations were not explicitly addressed in the program.

The only agenda item at this Special Meeting will be a forum discussion on these proposed changes. Members of the General Education Committee and the General Education Implementation Steering Team will be in attendance to facilitate the discussion and answer questions. A vote on the proposed changes is planned for the regularly scheduled Faculty Senate Meeting on September 17, 2015.

I hope that you will be able to attend so you can be well-informed of the proposed changes in advance of the September 17 Faculty Senate meeting.