

General Education Council Meeting
February 17, 2016, KSU Kennesaw Campus, KH 1103

Members Present:); Tom Doleys (CHSS: Political Science); Letizia Guglielmo (HSS: English); Deborah Hutchinson (COTA: Arts & Design); Jan Phillips (CHSS: Communication); Amy Howton (CHHS: Health Promotion & Physical Ed.); Seneca Vaught (CHSS: Interdisciplinary Studies); Dorothy Kuykendal (English); Valmiki Sooklal (Mechanical Engineering); Erin Sutherland (Physics); Joy Brookshire (Biology); Ashley McClure (CC&ES); Jesse Benjamin (Sociology); Ryan Ronnenberg (History); Matt Waller (Geography); Chris Totten (Criminal Justice); Huggins Msimanga (Chemistry/Biochemistry); Matt Laposata (Ecology and Evolutionary Biology); Sarah Holmes (Dance)

Ex-Officio: Valerie Whittlesey (Provost's office).

Visitors Present: Teresa Dize for Chris Hutt (University College); Tamara Powell (CHSS); Chien-Pin Li (CHSS); Jim Cope (Distance Learning Center); Brad Barney (Statistics); Humayun Zafar (IS&A); Saul Alamilla (Psychology)

I. Valerie Whittlesey welcomed the council members

II. Minutes of the January 20 meeting.

There was a motion by Dorothy and a second by Matt to approve the January 20, 2016, meeting minutes. The motion passed.

III. Report on Online Gen Ed Courses

Jim Cope reported on the state of online Gen Ed courses. Currently there are not enough online "seats" to meet student demand. eCore is currently an overflow option but could become more of a necessary choice for students if more sections are not available. Jim asked for one instructor from each discipline within Gen Ed to volunteer to sit on a committee to revisit online learning at KSU. Matt suggested that the current Distance Learning Coordinators for each college be tasked with finding people for the committee. Jim explained that the model could change, with various roles and a new compensation model evolving. The committee would do research in Fall 2016, design and build would occur in Spring 2017; the new model would release fall 2017.

Tammy Powell stressed that it is critical to keep the importance of the KSU faculty members during the process.

IV. Report on preliminary eCore study

We have previously had no data on downstream performance from students taking eCore courses vs. traditional courses. 4 institutions do not accept eCore at this time.

The researchers reported on 2010 data and stressed that – at most- students have taken 3 eCore courses. A faculty report has never been run. From the 2010 data, only 32 students took a subsequent course in a sequence through eCore (e.g., ENGL 1101, 1102) Typically the eCore student is older than the usual first-time first-year student: in the mid-to-late twenties, white, and female. Data from 2011 and later was just been released; GEC will receive reports on it next fall.

V. Gen. Ed. Assessment- Tom

Tom indicated that all is going well, with the current-year GE Assessment on schedule. The D2L GE Assessment site is now in process. Restricted access as non-edit instructors, on a need-to-know basis, will be provided to GEC and the DACs, under password protection. The site includes assessment documents, assessment reports by area and discipline, and information on the 3rd party Critical Thinking Assessments being examined.

VI. Faculty Director of General Education

Val Whittlesey reported that there have been over 30 applicants, none of them internal. Four phone interviews will take place February 19, with campus interviews in early March.

VII. Future GEC meetings

The next meeting will be in KH 1103 in March. The meeting was adjourned by Val Whittlesey.