

General Education Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 18, 2013
3:30 – 5:00 pm
Leadership Room

Voting Members: Margaret Baldwin (COTA; TPS); Natalie Berry (COTA; Dance); Cathy Bradford (UC; FYTS); (Beth Daniell (HSS; English); Tom Doleys (HSS; Political Science); Edward Eanes (COTA; Music); David Johnson II (HHS; ESP); Matt Laposata (CSM; Biology); Noah McLaughlin (HSS; Foreign Languages); Sarasij Majumder (HSS; ISD); Huggins Msimanga (CSM); Tom Pynn (HSS; Philosophy); Teresa Racek (HSS; Anthropology); Gail Scott (HSS; Psychology); Kristen Seaman (COTA; Visual Arts); Bruce Thomas (CSM; Mathematics/Statistics); Chris Totten (HSS; Sociology).

Guests: Thierry Leger (HSS).

Nonvoting Members: Valerie Whittlesey (Academic Affairs)

I. Minutes of August 7 GEC Retreat

There was a motion and second to accept the meeting minutes following by a unanimous “yes” voice vote.

II. General Education program course syllabus common language

Val reminded the group to place the general education program course syllabus common language in their course syllabi and to encourage other faculty in their departments to also do so. There are two templates: 1) one for gen. ed. courses that are currently being assessed and 2) one for gen. ed. courses NOT currently being assessed. Val indicated she will send the link to the templates to GEC members after the meeting.

III. Summary of USG Adult Learning/Prior Learning Assessment Consortium- Tom Doleys

Tom indicated the consortium focused on how to make it easier for adult learners to go to and/or return to college. PLA also focuses on offering veterans and/or those with professional work experience a way to receive credit for non-credit courses/certificates if they can demonstrate they have the knowledge and skills that match course LOs and objectives. PLA initiatives are consistent with the Complete College GA initiative, and KSU is already offering some forms of PLA, such as AP and CLEP credit. Since presentation of portfolios demonstrating achievement of LOs is a part of other forms of PLA, the challenge to moving forward with these PLA forms is the heavy workload involved for faculty.

There was also much discussion of MOOCs. Tom indicated that the issue missing from the MOOC discussion is the substantial cost associated with developing these courses. GA Tech's MOOC graduate program is very expensive and being subsidized heavily by a large corporate grant.

Val indicated she provided some links to some PLA resources.

IV. Invitation to Participate in KSU's Learning Communities- Cathy Bradford

Cathy invited GEC faculty to participate in a learning community. LCs are typically a linking of one or two general education courses and a KSU freshman seminar course. The call for proposals for participating in the fall, 2014 LCs will go out in October.

Cathy showed the data indicating the success of LCs. The first year to second year retention rate is higher for students participating in a LC. LCs are considered a high-impact practice (HIP).

During fall, 2013, there were 38 LCs enrolling 850 students and involving 63 faculty, 6 colleges, and 15 academic departments. Cathy indicated the learning outcomes the LC program, which include integrative learning, time management skills, and communication skills. Cathy will host a LC showcase for LC students in November, and she is inviting all faculty to attend.

V. General Education Assessment Update- Tom Doleys

Gen. ed. assessment is going well. This is the year for the actual assessment of core area B, C, and E (AMST 1102, COM 1109, FL 1002, PHIL 2200, ARTS 1107, DANC 1107, TPS 1107, MUSI 1107, and HIST 1110). Tom is working core area A2 and D (MATH 1101, MATH 1111, MATH 1112, MATH 1113, MATH 1190, SCI 1102, GEOG 1113, CHEM 1212, CHEM 1152, PHYS 1112, and PHYS 2212) DACs on for their pilot assessments. All area A2 and D DACs have been identified. Tom is currently meeting with each DAC group.

Val and the GEC members thanked Tom for his general education assessment leadership.

VI. Post- Regent's Test Assessment- Beth Daniell

Beth indicated the conditions of KSU's Regent's test exemption proposal approval. KSU agreed to: 1) provide a supplemental lab for students who fail ENGL 1101 and/or ENGL 1102 and are re-taking the course(s) and 2) assess student learning in the two courses.

Beth summarized the 2012-13 academic year data. The rhetorical analysis essay that is assigned to students late in the fall semester for ENGL 1101 was analyzed, and 2,243 randomly selected assignments were analyzed for “exceeds expectations” “meets expectations” or “does not meet expectations” using a rubric. A researched essay assignment near the end of the spring semester for ENGL 1102 was selected for evaluation using a rubric, and 2,242 randomly selected assignments were assessed. Beth presented the data for fall and for spring, including the disaggregation of data by delivery mode. Beth discussed the results and ways that the English faculty have used the results.

Tom indicated that these data can be included in the report to SACS on general education assessment. Beth and Tom agreed to talk.

Val thanked all for attending. The meeting was adjourned.