

Grand Valley State University
General Education Committee Meeting

167 Lake Ontario Hall
 Minutes of 9/12/2016

PRESENT: Kirk Anderson, Chair; Haiying Kong; Melba Velez Ortiz; Huihui Qi; Eric Ramsson; Jeremy Robinson; Lindy Scripps-Hoekstra; Susan Strouse; Patrick Thorpe; David Vessey

ALSO PRESENT: Scott Berlin, Interim Director, General Education; Jennifer Cathey, General Education Office Coordinator

NOT PRESENT: Hsiao-Ping Chen; Dori Danko; Gabriele Gottlieb; Kimberly McKee; Linda Pickett; Robin Smith-Colton;

Agenda Items	Discussion	Action Taken
Approval of current Agenda	Move CAR Reviews until after Assessment Report Data so more people will be present.	Approved per consensus
Approval of 8/29/2016 Minutes	Member asked if fewer details should be written in the minutes regarding a denied course proposal. The committee agreed by consensus that only the most pertinent information should be included. Chair will amend the minutes and present to the committee next week.	Tabled until next meeting
Assessment Data Report	Chair suggested we make a Table of Contents. Change color from skill to skill on Figure O.5 in the Executive Summary and other figures that have a lot of bars. Members agreed that the apparent trends in a lot of the graphs don't make sense. Why are Seniors doing worse than Freshman in some skills? We need to explain why that is. We can explain that some professors are trained in assessment and others are not and during training they are given a better understanding of the scoring system. Member stated that we want to know if students are proficient or higher at graduation as opposed to on a yearly basis. Chair stated we need to review the report, make revisions, and then address the issues. Member stated that we have seen a lot of bad data, strange assessments, etc. through the CARs which give us more information than this report. Member stated that Figure O.5 covers three years of data so we can't know if there were improvements from year to year. Chair stated that the report needs to state that the underclassmen in Issues was due to Honors courses. Possibly take the Honors courses out of the graphs or add frequencies. Members can send any comments to the Chair or to GE directly. Member asked who the audience of this report is. Chair stated the GVSU Community. Interim Director stated that the Higher Learning Commission would be another target. Member stated that the report is too hard to interpret for such a broad audience. The narrative text in the beginning of the report stated there are no P Values – that should be expanded upon. Also, need to express that there is some value in the data but everyone assesses differently so the data can be subjective in areas. Members feel the data in the Executive Summary is valuable but needs to be explained so that the general audience can	

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	<p>understand and interpret it properly. If GE decides to distribute mini reports the committee thinks they should be distributed at the same time. However, the committee feels like the big report with a well-written and explained Executive Summary should suffice. Member stated that this document should be able to be read by the entire university community and should be simplified. There could be more small reports written for different audiences and from different angles. Interim Director stated that adding a discussion section to the report should be included for easier interpretation plus allowing for GE to explain what we learned and how we will make improvements. Chair asked if it is common to have a discussion section in an assessment report. If it is, how big of a role should the committee play in that? Interim Director will speak with the director and draft some ideas to share with the committee. Member stated wherever there is concern or good data we should note it and include in the discussion. Member stated that we should also include all the changes we have made already including the rubrics, how we give faculty instructions, etc. Member stated that it would be helpful to have frequencies in addition to percentages so we know how many Freshman are in a course vs. Seniors.</p>	
<p>CAR Reviews -ECO 349 -GRK 202</p>	<p>ECO 349 GRK 202</p> <p>Two CARs were discussed as a committee. This is to prepare members to work in subgroups on the remaining CARs.</p> <p>Chair will write up draft reply letters and share with the committee.</p>	
<p>Chair's Report</p>	<p>The official Senate charges are the same as the draft charges. Asked Karen Gipson to clarify charge number 4. The charge was to address the increasing pressure from employers to teach job related skills. Chair will contact the Career Center. We have a student senate member now – Jeremy Turnbull is back. The CHP representative has resigned from GVSU and we are in need of a new rep. Member suggested the Chair should contact the Dean of CHP to seek a new representative. Our current CCPS representative has a class conflict and cannot attend. Interim Director suggested Chair contact the college Dean. No curriculum waiting for our review at this time.</p>	
<p>Director's Report</p>	<p>The GE office is close to having all Fall assessments scheduled. We have updated all directions and emails related to assessment. Some faculty members have expressed they want examples of good “stuff” when teaching Gen Ed Skills Student Learning Outcomes. If anyone on the committee has anything they would like to share with us, please send it. The first day of the 7-day assessment workshop sequences starts tomorrow.</p>	
<p>Adjournment</p>		<p>4:29pm</p>