

Grand Valley State University
General Education Committee Meeting

167 Lake Ontario Hall
 Minutes of 10/24/2016

PRESENT: Kirk Anderson, Chair; Hsiao-Ping Chen; Dori Danko; Kimberly McKee; Melba Velez Ortiz; Linda Pickett; 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: Dawn DeVries; Gabriele Gottlieb; Haiying Kong; Robin Smith-Colton; Jeremy Turnbull

Agenda Items	Discussion	Action Taken
Approval of current Agenda	No discussion.	Approved per consensus
Approval of 10/10/2016 Minutes	No discussion.	Approved per consensus
QI Report	<p>Part of accreditation was an initiative to assess the GE Program. The Quality Initiative (QI) is an external report to be presented to our campus community. The GE director is ready to get input as to how to present the data. Whenever members see something that needs to be changed or clarified just let the GE office know and we will work on it as we progress throughout the semester. Chair stated that we should shrink the size of the graphs down in order to put more on a page and lessen the page count of the document. Member stated that we need a Table of Contents now for this document. Member asked that the titles be changed to headings for use with screen readers. Member asked to have anchors in the document to click from table of contents to different sections of the document. Chair suggested increasing the font size of data labels on all figures. Member stated that we should state the rhetorical purpose of this report. What are we trying to convince the reader of? If the results are not great, talk about how we plan to improve. There needs to be an analysis section. Interim Director stated that the committee could help develop the analysis section after the QI is fixed up per committee recommendations. Member asked why the goal is 100% of students at proficient? Is that attainable? If there are only 80% proficient, why are we falling short? How do we explain it? If we change it to 90%, where does that come from? Why do we choose that number? Member asked why we would lower the goal from 100% to 90%? It won't always be attainable but we still want to achieve it. Member said that we want to show improvement and not necessarily lower the goal. Member stated that the report needs to say that all students should be</p>	

	<p>proficient after they finish the GE Program and not when they graduate. Some students are done with GE courses after their Junior year. Member asked if we could write the report differently and take the goals that the GE program has and talk about where we are in achieving those goals. Interim-Director will review the QI goals that have been set for GE and inform members. Members commented that Ethical Reasoning and Information Literacy did not show improvement from Junior to Senior years. Member suggested offering some kind of exit survey about the GE Program to seniors to gather information about their views on the GE program. Troy Farley from the Career Center will be here next week and we can ask him about his opinion on exit surveys.</p> <p>Committee would like to see the full Quality Initiative. Also, the GE office will fix up the QI with the suggestions from today and send back to GEC for more discussion.</p>	
Progress on UAS Charges	<p>Committee looked at the UAS charges and added any information that we have been doing or should be doing to complete these charges.</p> <p>Career Center director, Troy Farley will be here next week to talk about integrating practical skills. Member wants to know what practical skills they want us to incorporate and how they fit into the GE Program. Member suggested we ask Troy how employers view our graduates. Member stated that career preparation is part of what we do, but only a piece of what we do. Practical skills go beyond career preparation. Chair asked committee to think about questions to ask Troy in order to use his time efficiently.</p> <p>Theme courses – can we look at historical enrollments to see which courses were popular and try to get these converted to Issues.</p> <p>Charge 5 - Member suggested surveying faculty on whether to add an interdisciplinary category to replace one of the SBS requirements. Member asked if this is something we need to get done quickly for a catalog deadline. Members agreed that time and consideration needs to be taken with this.</p>	
CAR Replies	<p>Groups discussed their reply letters for their three assigned CARs, which will complete our CAR work this semester.</p>	
Chair's Report	<p>Troy Farley will be here next week.</p>	

Director's Report	None.	
Adjournment		4:21 pm