



**To:** Felix Ngassa, ECS Chair

**Cc:** C. Griff Griffin, Director, General Education Program

**From:** Robert Adams, GEC Chair

**Subject:** General Education Committee End of Year Report for 2021-2022

**Date:** April 20, 2022

The General Education Committee (GEC) met 24 times virtually over Zoom almost every Monday from 2:30-4:30 p.m. We can report progress in the following areas.

**Curriculum:** We reviewed 11 course proposals, some with multiple resubmissions.

**Assessment:** During the Fall semester, we reviewed and replied to 3 Course Assessment Reports (CARs), and 2 Course Assessment Plans. The GE committee approved all but one of them. During the Winter semester, we reviewed and replied to 44 CARs, approving all but 4 of them.

**Sail/Rubric Forms:** We started conversations about the clarity of the GE form in Sail and the Course Assessment Rubric.

- We simplified the Integration skill by reducing from two objectives to one.
- We simplified the assessment choices on the Sail form. Some choices were redundant or obsolete.
- We clarified the language for the Collaboration skill to explicitly mention that the skill requires students to work on a team for a significant amount of time.
- Updated the Course Assessment Rubric feedback form to use language that better reflects the consequences of the feedback. The new actions are: Recertified for Four Years, Recertified with Concerns, Warning, and Probation.

**Creative Thinking:** We continued conversations with units interested in developing a "creative thinking" Student Learning Outcome in place of "critical thinking". Initial polling showed some interest, but the response rate was low. GEC speculates that the topic might generate more interest when units have more available time. At this point, faculty from the Foundation-Arts are exploring how to define the topic.

**Foundation-Physical Sciences:** GEC observed that no Physical Sciences course has ever chosen Information Literacy as an objective. GEC chose to eliminate that choice for this category.

**Foundation-Historical Perspectives:** The GE Director held a meeting with interested faculty to discuss potential changes to this category. A committee of faculty from the Historical Perspectives category met and discussed changes they thought were needed to make the category clearer. GEC approved a change in the category title (now "Historical Analysis"), category description, and adding a new Student Learning Objective.

**Foundation-Mathematical Sciences:** Per a recommendation from the Math department, GEC approved dropping the MTH 110 prerequisite for all General Education Foundation-Mathematical Sciences courses effective Fall 2023. Individual courses can choose to keep the prerequisite or drop it.

**ECS Charges**

- **Leadership and Succession Planning:** GEC approved updated by-law language and submitted a report in SHORE in September.
- **Teaching about Systemic Racism:** GEC approved updated category description language for Global Perspectives. For U.S. Diversity, GEC approved an updated catalog description and a new Student Learning Outcome. A recommendation was submitted in SHORE in March.
- **Equity Gap:** GEC submitted a report and recommendation in SHORE in April.
- **End-of-Year Report:** This report fulfills this charge.

### Miscellaneous

- Developed a document for internal use to help new members understand how to review a Course Assessment Report.
- Developed a document describing the various roles and responsibilities of the members of GEC.

### Attendance

Robert Adams, Chair	24
Phyllis Curtiss [STA] (2023)	20
Brian Drake [MTH] (2022)	23
Gabriele Gottlieb [HST] (2021)	23
Leon Lou [PSY] (2023)	20
Dennis Malaret [SOC] (2022)	22
Robert Rozema [ENG] (2023)	19
Amy Stolley [WRT] (2021)	10 (on sabbatical in Winter)
Patrick Thorpe [BIO] (2022)	18
Dori Danko [ACC] (2022)	21
Emily Nichols [SW] (2022)	7 (class conflict in Fall)
Linda Pickett [ED] (2023)	10 (class conflict in Winter)
Rajvardhan Patil [CIS] (2024)	15
Chad Sutcliffe [AHS] (2022)	11
Heather Chappell (2024)	17
Maya Hobscheid (2022)	23

### Committee Members

Robert Adams, Chair  
 Phyllis Curtiss, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
 Brian Drake, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
 Gabriele Gottlieb, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
 Leon Lou, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
 Dennis Malaret, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
 Robert Rozema, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
 Amy Stolley, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
 Patrick Thorpe, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
 Dori Danko, Seidman College of Business  
 Emily Nichols, College of Education and Community Innovation  
 Linda Pickett, College of Education and Community Innovation  
 Rajvardhan Patil, Padnos College of Engineering & Computing  
 Chad Sutcliffe, College of Health Professions  
 Heather Chappell, Kirkhof College of Nursing

Maya Hobscheid, University Libraries  
Steeve Buckridge, Brooks College of Interdisciplinary Studies (Fall only)  
No student representative

Ex Officio Members:

C. Griff Griffin, Director, General Education;  
Ellen Schendel, Office of the Provost