

Minutes of General Education Committee Meeting

July 30, 2015

In Attendance: M. Eftink, R. Forgette, R. Cummings, H. Reynolds, S. Monroe, A. Gibson, K. Kellum, N. Wiggers, C. Hussey, M. Allen, J. Garner

Absent: V. Chavis, I. Labuda, J. Moen

1. Review of current General Education Statement and Learning Outcomes

- the relationship between Gen Ed and Core Curriculum
- General Education at UM is skills based and should extend beyond Core

2. Review of current assessment strategies and results for:

- written communication (and the QEP); assessed in courses & via NSSE, Graduating Student Survey, alumni survey
- mathematical skills: assessed in courses & via ETS-PP, NSSE
- critical thinking: assessed via NSSE, ETS-Proficiency Profile, GSS
- oral communication: assessed via NSSE and GSS
- ethical reasoning: assessed via plagiarism tutorial and some course eval questions

3. Ways to Improve Teaching and Assessment of Each Gen Ed LO and Use Results for Improvement

The above topics were discussed.

4. Handling Oral Communication

A proposal by Dr. Cummings and the Department of Writing and Rhetoric was discussed. The Committee was in general support of the suggestions to a) expand the number of Spch 102/105 sections and to possibly create an online version of Spch 102, b) to create a one-hour course, possibly having an online component, focusing on speech in the electronic format, to provide as an option to satisfy the oral communication requirement for students, and c) to hire a coordinator for the above.

5. Consideration of adding information literacy and/or modifying ethical reasoning/responsibility

This was discussed, with no specific action.

6. Alignment of Gen Ed Learning Outcomes and Each School's Core Curriculum

The example of the alignment in the College of Liberal Arts was discussed.

7a. Alignment of Gen Ed Learning Outcomes and Learning Outcomes for Majors

7b. Create Gen Ed LO Grids for Each Major

This type of alignment was discussed.

9. Schedule for Future Surveys and Assessments

The Committee also agreed that it would meet more regularly this year to try to make progress on the above items.