



AGENDA

General Education Committee

DATE: April 30, 2019
TIME: 10:00 AM
LOCATION: 200 Lyceum

Call to Order: Co-chairs Noel Wilkin and Lee Cohen called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

Attendance:

Present: Lee Cohen, Noel Wilkin, Holly Reynolds, Bob Cummings, James Reid, Kate Kellum, Patty O'Sullivan, Danielle Ammeter, Jason Ritchie, Nancy Wiggers, Katie Busby, Maurice Eftink

Absent: Ashley Jones-Bodie, Mindy Sutton, Jon Moen, Stephen Monroe, Deborah Mower, Ginny Chavis, Rich Forgette

General Education Committee Business:

Review of SACSCOC Onsite Visit

- Wilkin thanked the committee for their hard work on the SACSCOC visit.
- Busby provided a recap of SACSCOC site visit and thanked the committee for their participation during the site visit.
- UM received one recommendation from the On-Site Review Committee for Standard 8.2b. General Education Assessment. The follow-up report is due August 21, 2019.
 - Committee discussed approaches to preparing the follow-up report and practices to communicate the general education assessment plan to ensure compliance with standard.
- Eftink reviewed the reaffirmation accreditation process.

Review of General Education Competencies

Committee discussed current wording of competencies. UM currently articulates the competencies as:

- mathematical reasoning
- written & oral communication
- Analytical reasoning/critical thinking (evaluation and analysis of complex material and sources of information)
- Ethical reasoning/responsibility

The following revisions were discussed and approved:

Written & Oral Communication

Busby: Suggested that we separate written & oral communication to reflect the current practice of articulating and assessing the competencies separately. Committee discussed the suggestion.

Cummings made a formal motion to separate written & oral communication be separated and comprise 2 different outcomes. Reynolds seconded the motion.
Vote: Unanimously approved.

Analytical reasoning/critical thinking (evaluation and analysis of complex material and sources of information)

Busby: Suggested that the work of the QEP committees indicated the competency should be solely critical thinking and that we remove 'analytical reasoning' & the subsequent parenthetical description. Committee discussed the suggestion.

Cummings: motion to change 'analytical reasoning/critical thinking' to 'critical thinking'. Eftink seconded the motion. Vote: Unanimously approved.

Ethical Reasoning/Responsibility

The committee discussed the importance of assessing distinction between Ethical Reasoning and Ethical Responsibility and reviewed excerpts from the Ethical Reasoning subcommittee's report and recommendation. The committee agreed by consensus to not make a recommendation, but agreed to correct the catalog (to reasoning). The committee also agreed by consensus to engage in further discussions about this competency during the 2019-2020 academic year.

The University of Mississippi General Education Competencies are as follows: written communication, oral communication, critical thinking, mathematical reasoning, ethical reasoning

Establishing the General Education as a Standing Committee

Committee discussed whether it should become a university standing committee, including membership, required annual report, and Chancellor approval.

Wilkin: Motion to create General Education committee as Standing Committee, but with some important changes to leadership and membership.

Cummings seconded the motion

Vote: Unanimously approved

Committee began discussing leadership and membership of the Standing Committee. Due to time constraints, the discussion will resume at the next meeting (date/time/location TBD).

Subcommittee Business: No subcommittee business was presented.

New Business: No new business was presented.

Adjourn: Meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM.