

**General Education Council (GEC)  
Minutes – Wednesday, February 14, 2018**

**Call to order:** The meeting was called to order by Brett Elliott at 3:00 pm.

**Members present:** Brett Elliott (Director of General Education), Rebecca Doyal Meyer, Jamie Knapp, Steve McKim, Patrick Reardon, Michael Reed, Kate Stubbs, Sandra Thomas, Robert Howard, Glenn Melancon, Jessica Daniel

**Members absent:** Kathleen Hardgrove, Crystal Moore, Hal Poovey, Brad Ludrick, John Van Bebber, Courtney Jackson, Luana Antouno

Brett apologized for scheduling this meeting at the same time as the Faculty Senate meeting resulting in several absent members.

**I. Approval of minutes from November meeting:**

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Robert Howard, seconded by Michael Reed, and unanimously passed.

Because we had a couple of guests, we went straight to New Business first and then came back to Old Business.

**II. New business:**

**A. Formation of Advisory Committee to Student for Center Success**

Marlin Blankenship (The Director of Academic Advising and Outreach Center) addressed the Council. He proposed that a new subcommittee be formed from within the GEC that would serve as an advisory committee to the Student for Center Success. After some discussion, a consensus was reached that this was a good idea and that the Council should move forward with it. Brett questioned whether there would need to be anything updated in our function statement in the Academic Policies and Procedures Manual or whether this is something that is already within our purview. He will ask Dan Althoff (Chair of the Faculty Senate) for his opinion. It was decided that the advisory committee would be formed by way of volunteers. Marlin said that anywhere from 3 to 5 members would be good. Brett will send out an email asking for volunteers.

**B. Proposal for Change in General Education Transfer Policy**

Kristie Luke (Associate Dean of Academic Records and Registrar) addressed the Council. She proposed a change in the general education policy regarding students that transfer to Southeastern from an accredited 2-year college that is not in Oklahoma and that Southeastern does not have an articulation agreement with. The current policy is that we do not recognize those students as having automatically met their general education requirements. Her proposal is that we would consider their general education requirements to be met as long as they meet the Oklahoma State Regents minimum standards for general education. Her best guess was that this effects a few dozen students each year. Most of those students are either

affected by Southeastern's math requirements or science requirements. Many transfer in with statistics and that will not count for the math requirement for general education (although it may be under consideration soon). Also, some transfer in with the required number of science hours, but they might be all in physical science or all in biology rather than 4 hours in each area that Southeastern requires. It was pointed out that most students have enough elective hours that it is not a hardship for them to take one or two more classes to finish their general education requirements. Kristie said it is not usually a problem if it is caught soon enough but that it is often not caught until they are about to graduate. It was suggested that maybe a hold could be put on the student's account their very first semester at Southeastern until a general education check had been done. It was also suggested that we need to make sure our advisors are aware of what the current policy is and that they need to check the general education courses of such students. After much discussion, a consensus was reached in the Council that no change in policy is needed.

**C. Updating the Syllabi of General Education Courses to Reflect the New Outcomes**

Brett pointed out that the syllabi for general education courses would have to be updated with the new goals and outcomes. A discussion ensued about whether it is really necessary to include the goals and outcomes on all general education syllabi. The concern is that when we require so many things on a syllabus that it decreases the chances that students actually read what is on the syllabus. Jamie Knapp made a motion that we no longer require that all general education courses list the outcomes that are covered on the syllabus. Sandra Thomas seconded the motion and it passed by a vote of 8 in favor, 1 opposed and 0 abstentions. Note, that this in no way prevents a faculty member from including this information on their syllabus if they so desire.

**III. Old business:**

**A. Administration's Response to GEC's Concerns about Academic Partnerships**

Brett went over the Administration's responses to our concerns about offering the general education program through AP. While many of the concerns were addressed, at least in part, one major concern that the GEC continues to have is with regards to intellectual property rights.

**B. Update on Assessment Plan for New General Education Outcomes**

Brett shared the latest version of our assessment plan for the new general education outcomes. Only one outcome is left to be addressed and Glenn Melancon said that it is already done and that he would email Brett the new measure that will be used to assess the political science outcome.

**Meeting adjourned at 4:15 pm.**

bme