

General Education Council  
Meeting Minutes  
November 16, 2022

1. The first meeting for Fall Semester 2022 for the General Education Council was held on Wednesday, November 16, 2022, at 3:00 pm in R300 with the chair of the council being present.
2. The meeting was called to order at 3:01 pm and a quorum was present.  
Roll call:  
Brett Elliott  
Charles Matthews  
Erica Corbett  
Steve McKim  
Hal Poovey  
Michael Scheuerman  
Glenn Melancon  
Michael Reed  
Stephanie Metts  
Sandra Thomas
3. New Business: Proposed changes to Gen Ed requirements from OSRHE who is considering making all colleges/universities under their purview have the same gen ed requirements. After a lengthy discussion, the committee came up with the following Questions/Concerns that will be presented to VP Teresa Golden and as a side note, it was unanimous that we are all VERY concerned about these proposed changes.
  - Questions:
    - i. What is the rationale for this change and who exactly is the driving force behind it?
    - ii. How will this affect programs on campus? There are many majors on campus that have specific gen eds that are required that may no longer be listed as Gen Ed. For instance, Education requires Business and Professional Speaking and Geography and Foreign Language. Sometimes these are in place for accreditation purposes. How will this work under these proposed changes? If they become "major requirements" is it possible that caps on the number of hours you can have in a major might be raised? If the wording is changed in program requirements, will those programs have to get approval all over again from the Regents?
    - iii. Why 30-33 hours? Is there something special about that number of hours?
    - iv. Will the Gen Ed Council's scope need to change if this proposal is passed? Will there be a need for the Gen Ed Council if it is passed?
    - v. If this does pass, should we just add the extra 12 hours in such a way to make our new gen ed equivalent to what we have right now?

- Concerns:
  - i. We believe these changes will affect a LOT more than just students' ability to transfer Gen Ed. What effects will this have on programs, accreditation, committees, faculty positions, the catalog, etc.
  - ii. We believe that in general, the more local control we have over Gen Ed, the better. This runs counter to that.
  - iii. We are worried that some institutions in Oklahoma might farm these Gen Ed requirements out to the lowest bidder and then give their students the stamp on their transcript that says they have completed their gen ed and then we must accept it.
  - iv. We are worried about faculty losing control of the curriculum and that that will lead to us having to do more remediation in our upper-level courses.
  - v. Depending on how much overlap there is between the "extra" 12 hours of requirements between different universities, we feel that it could result in transfer students having to take even more courses in gen ed at their new university than they have to right now. And we are guessing that runs counter to the whole purpose of these proposals.
  - vi. We think some of the requirements of the "state system core" are not specific enough. For instance, we think the 6-8 hours of Nature and Science, needs specifically to be Biology and Physical Science.

4. Adjourned at 3:55 pm.