* **GE Committee MINUTES**
* **Oct 18, 2013**, 2-3:30pm, room L-105

Oct 18:

*Present:* Alex Sterling, Cindy McGrath, Rebecca Payne, Anthony Hailey, A'kilah Moore, Nancy Ybarra, Patricia Tirado

*Absent:* Dave Zimny, Francesca Paltera, Natalie Hannum

1. Agenda & minutes —*minutes for 9/20 and 10/4 approved. Who was present/absent needs to be added for 10/4.*
2. Course outlines: ART 18 —*approved*
3. Reinventing professional development at LMC. *See notes in italics below. Since we still don’t have a note-taker, the notes below don’t pretend to be comprehensive.*
	1. We will discuss how to reinvent professional development for GE faculty in light of the new 5-year plan and in light of low attendance and morale at recent Monday afternoon GE events. *We focused mainly on b below, though low morale and the 5-year plan were mentioned.*
	2. Also, Alex will report on what he learned at the Strengthening Student Success conference last week. Of special interest was the example of Chaffey College (<http://www.chaffey.edu/profdev/FSC/index.html>), which has a room and a full-time coordinator for faculty professional development.

*Alex showed Chaffey’s powerpoint presentation on their faculty prof devel program and argued that we should emulate it. He also argued that Chaffey’s model highlights deep problems with LMC’s prof devel for GE faculty over the last few years. For example, in our model the chair and GE committee don’t have enough time to develop good quality PD. For these and related reasons, Alex advocates a whole new setup instead of tinkering with the current setup for PD in GE.*

*In our conversation, many comments were made, including the following:*

* + *Support for adjunct faculty is sorely needed (2 adjuncts were present, and 3 serve on GE currently), as are ways of getting adjunct faculty more involved.*
	+ *One adjunct faculty member went to a GE event and was asked, “why are you here?”—suggesting the morale issue…that no one would want to go who wasn’t required.*
	+ *Chaffey has 50+% participation from adjunct faculty, plus adjuncts hang out in the center and use the computers, meaning Chaffey’s model is powerful tool for supporting and involving adjunct faculty.*
	+ *Chaffey’s model is very impressive: they have a wide variety of activities...something going on almost once a week!*
	+ *Chaffey’s PD program has had a profound positive effect on the culture of the college, acc to their PD coordinator, Cindy Walker.*
	+ *With a PD center like Chaffey’s, we could roll out lots more PD, but also use it to support PD we already do.*
	+ *Regarding PD in GE, PDAC was supposed to be involved somehow, but this hasn’t happened; GE and PDAC haven’t been connected, or not very well. Possibly GE chairs didn’t know PDAC’s help was available.*
	+ *Alex thinks being GE chair is a bum deal under the current model, wants the charge altered, and won’t recommend being chair to other faculty if things don’t change.*
	+ *Getting PDAC linked to faculty at large has been a difficulty.*
	+ *At LMC there seems to be some support for forming a PD center for all—not just faculty.*
	+ *If we form a task force to create a professional development center, adjunct faculty need to be on it.*
	+ *On the bright side, some of the amazing offerings at Chaffey were invented at LMC years ago.*
	+ *Root problem: PD is understaffed and under-resourced on all fronts; everyone working on it is doing it as just a sliver of their jobs, meaning no one is focusing on it enough or has enough time to do a good job.*
	+ *The budget crisis and assessment mandates have left PD neglected.*
	+ *Orientations for adjuncts need to be way better, and the office of instruction should be primarily responsible (along with depts. And GE people).*
	+ *We talked some about previous attempts to install PD and TLC coordinators and why they failed.*

* 1. *At a little after 3, the entire committee went to the Habits of Mind workshop. The mood there was very upbeat! Alex mentioned to the HoM audience that he favors a whole new PD setup for LC, and that he is concerned about adjunct faculty.*