General Education Committee - Minutes

<u>Present</u>: Adrianna Simone (Social Justice Studies), <u>Chair; Voting Members</u>: Diwa Ramos (Math); Cindy McGrath (Journalism); Robert (Bob) Moore (Science); Ryan Tripp (Social Science); <u>Non-Voting members</u>: Rikki Hall (Director of Admissions & Records), Ryan Pedersen (Dean of Instruction: Math & Sciences)

<u>Absent</u>: Tess Caldwell (English); Sara Toruno-Conley (English); Natalie Hannum (VP of Instruction);), Armon Gonzalez (LMCAS Senator)

Date: Nov. 24, 2021

<u>Guest</u>: Max Trujillo (Program Coordinator, EOPS)

Meeting called to order: 2:35 pm Location: Online – Zoom Meeting

CURRENT ITEMS

• Welcome, Public Comment and Announcements

- Members welcomed by the chair, A. Simone.
- Public comments were Thanksgiving greetings made by everyone.
- Agenda was shared by A. Simone. The first order of business was to ask a volunteer to be the notetaker. D. Ramos volunteered to be the notetaker.
- Approval of the Agenda Action: Approved (M/S: C. McGrath/B. Moore); unanimous
 - A. Simone shared that a possible change in agenda would be GE Tech Review. As such, A. Simone proposed to remove item #4 of the agenda and realign the remaining time on other work. Furthermore, changes were pending whether several Math courses, i.e., Math 140S, Math 155S etc., were able to be included in eLumen workflow.
 - Amending of Agenda Action: Approved (M/S: C. McGrath/B. Moore); unanimous
- SPRING 2022 Assessment Discussion: Discussion based on members' comments sent via email.

A. Simone shared that she had prepared a working document to collect feedback from members regarding assessment process. With, the exception of the two members who were absent, A. Simone mentioned that they would be able to share their feedback at the December meeting. To start the discussion, A. Simone brought forth R. Moore's feedback and shared it via zoom chat. These points were condensed as follows:

- Describe how the new GE Criteria created "a decentralized approach to the teaching of GE SLOs."
 This might include a review of how we arrived at the new list of SLOs and how the individual SLOs were formalized and disseminated. We could mention how specific faculty suggestions or concerns were addressed.
- Describe how the new GE criteria resolve prior issues surrounding the topics of "diversity" and "global interdependence," for which the report cited disagreement among instructors as to interpretation and application in courses.
- Describe how the new GE criteria help faculty with incorporating assignments and assessments of creative thinking. More professional developments in this area was suggested.

R. Moore elaborated these points further. For the first point, he stated that the committee could look at these points to start the conversations on how to evaluate and respond. For the second point, R. Moore suggested to give specific examples that would include those. For the third point, he suggested to focus on professional development and support.

C. McGrath responded to the second bullet point, i.e., "diversity" and "global interdependence." She shared that the revision of the GE model and criteria was aimed at alleviating the ambiguity of interpretation. She

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mentioned also that the past year was dedicated to rewording of descriptors and the addition of more examples. A. Simone posted a question about the timeline of GE assessment report. She asked whether the data from the 2020 survey were utilized to revise the model. C. McGrath said that it was used to clarify diverse perspectives. As an example, Science courses were having issues in using this SLO and as such tended to shift to global interdependence. The new GE model was able to fix this by introducing Scientific Inquiry.

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The committee continued discussing the survey from 2020 in comparison with an earlier survey conducted by Josh Bearden back in 2017-2018, which is attached in the appendix of the 2018 program review.

A. Simone asked the attendees if there were additional comments/ feedback. R. Tripp typed in the chat that he agreed with R. Moore's 3-bullet points. D. Ramos added that he was processing the three points but agreed with R. Moore's input as well.

A. Simone referred to page 12 of the GE assessment report from 2018, particularly the section for "Committee Recommendations on the Future of the GE Program." It reads that the GE committee should offer more professional development under creative thinking. This aligned with R. Moore's third point. Also, the discussion brought up the issue of page 13's implementation of 5 boxes. This issue stemmed with courses aligning with more than one GESLO. C. McGrath answered this by explaining that while the course needed to only align with one GESLO, courses were also "encouraged" to teach to more than one GESLO. Furthermore, the complications were compounded by technological limitation of e-Lumen to know the intent of courses with multiple GESLOs connections. C. McGrath asked R. Pedersen if he knew anything about e-Lumen's current functionality to resolve this issue. R. Pedersen shared that was not the best person to answer this issue and might needed to reach out for Eileen Valenzuela for better understanding. He also shared that until the full implementation of e-Lumen, certain loose ends would not be able to be ironed out yet. A. Simone said that she would draft an outline for the next meeting regarding what was discussed to explore further conversations on the spring 2022 assessment.

FLEX Workshops for Spring 2022

A. Simone shared the flex proposal form and went over each item to seek input from the committee. She shared that she received feedback from Library faculty. The suggestion was to have 2 GE flex sessions: One session was exclusive to the GE model and the other one was Information Literacy. The library faculty felt that explaining the new GE model would be a separate Flex.

R. Moore made a comment that if we conducted the GE model flex by itself, it would have the possibility of recreating the same experience as the last GE flex, when mostly GE members were the only participants. A. Simone stated that Library faculty were also amenable with combining the flex. The conversation about flex was concluded by soliciting suggestions for a "catchy" session title. The finalized title was still pending.

<u>Approve Meeting Minutes November 10, 2021</u> – No Action Taken Yet:

A. Simone suggested several edits regarding name format consistency for the minutes, e.g., Cindy would be renamed C. McGrath. Also, C. McGrath suggested rephrasing a sentence containing the word "thought" multiple times in the document. R. Moore also suggested potential deletion of the sentence "It was questioned whether this conversation..."