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); Tess Caldwell (English); Sara Toruño-Conley (English), <u>Non-Voting members</u>: Rikki Hall (Director of Admissions & Records), Ryan Pedersen (Dean of Instruction: Math & Sciences)

Date: Dec. 8th, 2021

<u>Absent</u>: Natalie Hannum (VP of Instruction); Armon Gonzalez (LMCAS Senator)

Meeting called to order: 2:39 pm Location: Online – Zoom Meeting

CURRENT ITEMS

• Welcome, Public Comment and Announcements

- Members welcomed by the chair, A. Simone.
- Agenda was shared by A. Simone. The first order of business was to ask a volunteer to be the notetaker. S. Toruño-Conley volunteered to be the notetaker.
- A. Simone shared that grades submission is extended to 12/17/2021 due to Canvas being down Tuesday, December 7th.
- A. Simone gave an update about the OER for Ethnic Studies. Ethnic Studies groups are working at the state level to get OER materials ready for all the Ethnic Studies disciplines.
- A. Simone shared that it's been a wonderful semester as GE Chair. R. Pedersen shared that A. Simone has done an excellent job as GE Chair.
- Approval of the Agenda Action: Approved (M/S: B. Moore/D. Ramos); unanimous
- Approve Meeting Minutes November 10, 24, 2021 Action: Nov. 10th Minutes Approved (M/S: S. Toruño-Conley/ D. Ramos); Nov. 24th Minutes Approved (M/S: B. Moore/ D. Ramos); 1 abstention (S. Toruño-Conley)
 - A. Simone asked a question if the previous amended agenda needed to be added to the GE website. S. Toruño-Conley said she was not sure, and that the GE Chair should ask C. McGrath
- SPRING 2022 FLEX Proposal: The GE Committee discussed the Spring 2022 Flex submission document.

The final title for the Spring 2022 Flex session is "'The More You Know:' Discovering GE and Information Literacy in Your Courses." The librarians liked the idea of a Hybrid-Flex, but the team opted for a complete Zoom session. A. Simone invited all the GE Committee members to a calendar invite for the Flex session. The icebreaker for the Flex session would be about information literacy. The time was reduced for the GE agenda items to allow for enough time for the information literacy portions. One main goal from the session is that instructors who submit GE COORs for review understand how to map to the new GE SLO's. There will be a demonstration of how the GE SLOs work for new COORs and how it works for those mapped to the older model. The hope is to encourage faculty to map to more than one GE SLO. The day and time of the Flex is Wednesday, January 19, 2022 at the 1:15pm time slot.

• <u>GE Assessment Draft, SP22</u>: The GE Committee discussed the outline of the Spring 2022 Assessment Report.

The GE Committee reviewed the introduction and summary section of the 2022 report outline. The committee said to explain that this is the first semester of the new GE adoption. The report might focus

on specific questions from the 2018 report, such as questions 4, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13, and 16. Discussion continued about the two GE surveys that the committee has access to, 2018 and 2020.

The body paragraphs of the report were discussed. It was suggested to describe how the new GE criteria created "a decentralized approach to the teaching of the GE SLOs." Clarification was asked about what it meant by "a decentralized approach?" Discussion ensued. C. McGrath explained that a "centralized approach" means everyone had to integrate all GE SLOs to be considered GE at LMC. A "decentralized approach" means everyone could pick whatever SLO they wanted. Problem with this is there would be 1 or 2 SLOs that would not be picked. The new GE model represents a compromise between the old, centralized model and what some faculty wanted, a total decentralized model.

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B. Moore suggests that a "key findings and recommendations" section be added to the introduction (summary of key points). A. Simone suggests that it be included in the introduction and the conclusion.

Discussion continued about how the new GE criteria resolved prior issues surrounding the topics of "diversity" and "global interdependence." Faculty who struggled with these SLOs won't be assigned to them. Now, courses that naturally link with diversity and global interdependence are assigned these SLOs (or similar ones) whereas courses that don't, aren't assigned these.

Discussion continued about the outcome portion of the report, which C. McGrath explains is harder to measure because students aren't getting hit with all GE SLOs as often as they were during the centralized model. Students will only be exposed to a GE SLO once as opposed to four times. B. Moore suggested that we review which courses map to their assigned SLO's. eLumen could have boxes to check for the GE SLOs for faculty; we can easily aggregate the data. The GE Committee asserted that the Curriculum Committee and eLumen tech should add this feature; might be powerful to add when changes occur with the ISLO's.

Discussion continued about how the new GE criteria help faculty with incorporating assignments and assessments of creative thinking. Creative thinking is a subset of critical thinking. The GE Committee assigned this task to TLC. TLC needs to work with the Curriculum Committee to evaluate this. All the old descriptors were passed to the TLC chair.

The GE Committee is still concerned about gaps and whether all students are taking courses in all the new GE SLO's. This should be reflected in the assessment report.

The conclusion and summary discussion focused on the key findings and recommendations section. The committee said to include future work that the GE Committee will need to work on, which includes:

- Title 5 updates with Ethnic Studies, SP2023
- Connections with Guided Pathways, such as clarify the path and the chancellor's vision for success in the reduction of accumulated units.
- Distance Education, work with Joanna Miller and get all GE units available as online courses.

Final discussions ended around the CVC exchange and how this affects GE courses. R. Hall explained that we could gather data showing all the courses that a student takes at LMC versus other colleges.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00pm