

**General Education Committee
Minutes**

September 19, 2018

Present:	Tien Chih	Melinda Tilton
	Jason Comer	Matt Queen
	Emily Arendt	Tom Regele
	Leanne Gilbertson	Cori Day
	Rebecca Muller	Lance Mouser
	Sue Balter-Retiz (ex-officio)	Jennifer Pope (ex-officio)
Absent:	Bernie Quetchenbach*	John Roberts*
	Josh Hill*	Megan Thomas*
	*excused	

Melinda Tilton called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m. in the SUB Missouri room.

The minutes of April 24 & August 31 were accepted as presented.

I. CHAIR/CO-CHAIR

Ms. Tilton agreed to continue as chairperson, and asked if any tenured faculty would like to co-chair. It was noted that Dr. Quetchenbach had said he is interested, but has class during this time this semester. Ms. Tilton stated that she would ask Dr. Quetchenbach to serve as a co-chair/advisor for this semester.

II. ITEM FOR INFORMATION

Item 58 Old Courses Deleted from 2018-19 catalog.

- Accepted by acclamation.

III. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

A. Biennial Review of Gen Ed Courses: Data Analysis, Box

It was agreed that most course reviews lacked information, rather than showed that a course did not fit in Gen Ed. There was a lot of confusion about what we were asking for. The next review in two

years should have a template that faculty can simply fill in.

Do we want to ask for more information from Departments, regarding the courses that scored 11 or lower on our evaluation rubric? It was responded that we can report that our outcomes do not match the request sent out, so we intend to change our outcomes and reassess the courses.

IV. ASSESSMENT UPDATE/VICE PROVOST REPORT

Tien Chih stated that his students can do the number crunching of the ETS data.

Sue Balter-Reitz, Interim Vice Provost, stated that recently, the University System discussed moving to Passport, which helps students transfer courses. While that proposal eventually fell apart, the discussion prompted a review of the MUS Gen Ed Core. The System is now moving toward a single Gen Ed for all MUS units. This summer the Gen Ed Council created task forces to review the Gen Ed categories and what those categories mean, which may result in redefining the categories. They may also come up with category outcomes that we can then use at MSUB. Joe Thiel, OCHE's Director of Academic Policy & Research, will be on campus next week if the Committee would like to meet with him.

Dr. Balter-Reitz also stated that our NWCCU accreditation visit will be October 15-17, 2018. The accreditors would like to meet with the GEC on Monday, October 15 at 3:00 p.m. The faculty open forum is Tuesday, October 16 at 4:00 p.m. in Library 148. We will likely receive a recommendation regarding assessment of Gen Ed after this visit, and they have said that the ETS test is not enough by itself.

B. Gen Ed Syllabi

We may want to require that all Gen Ed course syllabi have the Gen Ed outcomes listed on them. Many courses include outcomes, but not all of them.

- Motion by Matt Queen, seconded by Leanne Gilbertson to **recommend to the Academic Senate that all Gen Ed course syllabi be required to include the proposed Gen Ed purpose statement (draft below) and the current category objectives.**

- Motion carried.

Purpose Statement

General education at MSU Billings is designed to foster an appreciation for the broad spectrum of human academic knowledge. General education courses promote the development of respect for diversity, along with skills in problem solving, critical thinking, and communication necessary for students to become productive and responsible members of their communities.

The meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Rita J. Rabe Meduna.