

Minutes

GenEd Meeting of June 26, 2017

Present: Pearson Cross, Fabrice Leroy, Robert McKinney, Alise Hagan, Christie Maloyed, Emily Deal, Jonathan Goodwin, Burke Huner, James Kimball, Sue Ann Ozbirn, Ashok Kumar, Lana Rodriguez, Lise Anne Slatten

After a brief introduction the meeting began with a discussion of the various Gen Ed Assessment plans in the disciplines. The draft plan for Social and Behavioral sciences was distributed and discussed. Comments focused on the insufficient attention to critical thinking, problems with the rubric, and with the outcomes themselves. The question was raised about the rationale for assessing 3xx level classes for GenEd. A further question concerned whether majors in a field should be excluded from GenEd evaluation. It was the will of the committee that once efforts had been made to select classes taken by students for GenEd credit that the question of major/not-major was of lesser importance.

The second area taken up was Math assessment. The Math plan was explained. There was some focus on the rubric and the question of whether the objectives contained more than one thrust, leading to confusion in the assessment portion. Somewhat detailed discussion of the artifact used to assess Math classes for GenEd. Discussion of Math 109/110 and whether they should be assessed. It was pointed out that two colleges (Engineering, Sciences) were likely not assessed for Math in terms of GenEd.

A discussion of the Sciences GenEd assessment followed. The Sciences GenEd structure was noted for praise. However, the question of whether or not the Sciences should have or employ a formal rubric was discussed at some length. It was felt that the creation of a formal rubric might allow some nuance in the evaluation of results with a consequent improvement in efforts to “close the loop.”

Following Sciences, First Year Experience presented a rubric and also a multiple choice exam containing questions solicited from various instructors. The rubric and questions were examined in some detail, with regard to areas covered.

Finally, English presented a First-Year Writing Assessment Report, which detailed the current GenEd Assessment process in English. Results from assessment in six sections were detailed (5 Engl: 102; 1 English 115). It was suggested that future assessments would be conducted in random rather than utilizing entire sections of a class. It was noted that English assess 5% of the students in its sections, which constitutes a significant time commitment from department members.

Questions about Humanities and Arts were deferred until the next meeting of the Committee, which was scheduled for **Monday, July 17 at 1 pm in Griffin 109b**. Work groups were encouraged to continue their good progress with an eye towards instituting the assessment beginning in fall 2017.

The meeting adjourned at 2:35