

General Education Committee Minutes: 10/29/2020

11 am – 12 noon, Online

Present: Victor Piercey (Director), Paul Zube (FNTFO), Rachel Foulk (CAS), Monica Frees (RSS), Mari Kermit-Canfield (FLITE), Kathryn Wolfer (Senate Liaison), Mary Beaudry (COHP), and Clifton Franklund (Assessment Coordinator)

Absent: Angie Mishler (Academic Counselors), Leonard Johnson (Academic Affairs), and Amy Greene (EIO).

1. Approval of Agenda: Approved unanimously.
2. Announcements:
 - Mari, Monica, and Victor are considering postponing the FLC to Fall 2021 due to faculty fatigue. Feedback?

Suggestions included running the FLC in the summer, or holding a preparation event to help faculty interested in the FLC to prepare their applications in the summer. Mari, Monica, and Victor will discuss the ideas and make a decision.

3. Consent Agenda: Approved unanimously.

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4. Process Updates: Changes to “defining criteria”

“Defining criteria” are the elements of each competency that are displayed on the website, and include the Ferris Learning Outcomes (the “FLOs”), the operational definition, the “Hallmark of a Bulldog”, and relevance.

Subcommittees may propose changes to the defining criteria. The question is what the approval process should look like.

The committee discussed a draft in which the UGEC approved or rejected changes to everything except for FLOs. For FLOs, the following outlines the draft:

- Feedback to subcommittee from University Assessment Committee (UAC) and University Curriculum Committee (UCC).
- Subcommittee sends proposal with UAC and UCC feedback to UGEC for approval.

- If UGEC approves, it is sent to the Senate Executive Committee (SEC). If the SEC feels the proposal does not warrant Senate action, the proposal is approved. Otherwise, the proposal is forwarded to the Senate for approval.
- A rejection at any stage stops the process.

The UGEC discussed the draft, and (a) added a two-week, online public comment period for all proposals at the very beginning of the process, (b) added a requirement that the subcommittee include public comments and written responses to public comments (and UAC/UCC feedback), (c) determined that approved proposals take effect the fall following the last approval in the process, and (d) when a proposal is approved, the Director will send out a university-wide notice and inform the Registrar, MyDegree coordinator, Nuventive/Improve coordinator, and Academic Affairs.

The next step is to seek feedback from UCC and UAC, finalize the language, and submit to Senate for approval. Before finalizing, we will add diagrammatic representations.

During the discussion, the UGEC noted that more could be done to strengthen engagement between the faculty and the subcommittees.

5. Assessment: The assessment coordinator has run into some bugs in programming, but expects to work them out, and in the interim will draft a message to send to the university community.