

General Education Committee Minutes: 11/10/2020

Present: Victor Piercey (Director), Paul Zube (FNTFO), Rachel Foulk (CAS), Monica Frees (RSS), Mari Kermit-Canfield (FLITE), Kathryn Wolfer (Senate Liaison), Mary Beaudry (COHP), Leonard Johnson (Academic Affairs), Jake Pollak (former COEHS), and Amy Greene (EIO).

Absent: Angie Mishler (Academic Counselors) and Clifton Franklund (Assessment Coordinator).

Guests: Gordon Reynolds (current COMM subcommittee chair), Debbie Courtright-Nash (former COMM subcommittee chair and former ELWL chair).

11 am – 12 noon, Online

1. Approval of Agenda: Approved unanimously
2. Announcements:
 - FLC going to run in summer
 - GE Communication Plan update: We are going to send out a survey to those teaching gen ed in January to ask how they promote (a) career preparation, (b) citizenship, and (c) lifelong learning in their gen ed courses. These items correspond to Ferris' mission and align with 21st century skills. We will see what bubbles up from the responses in order to craft our message.
 - SPAN 190 approved for DIVG
3. Consent Agenda: Approved by a vote of 7 for approval and 1 abstention.
 - Minutes for Oct. 29, 2020
4. Proposals

None
5. COMM-4 FLO

When the FLOs were drafted, the COMM subcommittee were encouraged to build four FLOs that were common to both oral and written communication. They were able to write three FLOs that were common, and identified separate oral and written FLOs for the fourth outcome:

COMS 4 (Oral): **Relationship with Others** - Students will apply effective communication behaviors to develop relationships and to promote listening and discussion.

COMW 4 (Written): **Document Design** – Students will employ the tools of effective document design and visual rhetoric to produce professional texts or multimedia products

The oral outcome was posted on the competency website and incorporated into the CIP forms, but the rubrics were written for separate outcomes. Assessment practice since 2017 has been consistent with the intent for separate fourth outcomes for oral and written communication.

The committee voted unanimously to implement the separation of the fourth outcome, and found that since the intent at the launch of the current program was to separate the fourth outcomes, no additional process was necessary.

6. Running Annual Agenda (as time permits)

- Data Use: Review Data Use Philosophy

The committee reviewed a draft assessment data use philosophy. The draft incorporated feedback from Academic Affairs. Additional feedback from the FFA was shared with the committee.

The committee recommended:

- Delete the sentence that stated “It is the ethical responsibility of all individuals involved in general education to participate in data collection, analysis, and use.” FFA feedback consisted of an objection to the statement, and the committee expressed concern about a policy or statement of philosophy modifying the contract or workload concerns. Moreover, the committee did not believe the sentence was necessary, nor did it fit the paragraph (which was about the use of data for continuous improvement).
- Change the tense of the verbs from future to present.