

General Education Committee Minutes: 4/13/2021

Present: Victor Piercey (Director), Monica Frees (RSS), Kathryn Wolfer (Senate Liaison), Jake Pollak (former COEHS), Clifton Franklund (Assessment Coordinator), Mari Kermit-Canfield (FLITE), Katie Kalata (COB), Mary Beaudry (COHP), Andrew Peterson (EIO), and Rachel Foulk (CAS).

Absent: Paul Zube (FNTFO), Angie Mishler (Academic Counselors), and Leonard Johnson (Academic Affairs).

11 am – 12 noon, Online

1. Approval of Agenda

Approved unanimously

2. Announcements:

- BIOL 290 Approved for Nat. Sci.
- Draft Closing the Loop Report (Quant) approved – will be on consent agenda for next meeting.
- FLC Spring 2022 – talk with your faculty!

3. Consent Agenda

- Minutes for March 18, 2021

Approved unanimously

4. Proposals

- None

5. Discussion Items

- Reconfiguring UGEC and Subcommittee compositions post-COEHS

Since COEHS has been dissolved with units moved into CAS (now CASE) and COB, we need to reconfigure the UGEC and subcommittee compositions.

UGEC: The committee voted to turn the COEHS position into an at-large faculty representative, with 1 vote, a term of 3 years, and appointed by the Senate Executive Committee. The vote was 7 in favor, 1 opposed, and 1 abstention.

Discussion: Options raised included:

- Deleting the position without replacement.
- Replace the position with a representative that rotates among the colleges.
- Replace the position with an at-large faculty representative.
- Replace the position with a representative of new faculty
- Replace with a graduate faculty representative

The simplest option, without upsetting balance, would be to delete the position without replacement. However, we want a diversity of voices and we also want to demonstrate faculty involvement. The options narrowed to an at-large representative or a graduate faculty representative.

Arguments in favor of a graduate faculty representative noted that graduate institutions are consumers of our graduates and as such would have a unique voice. On the other hand, that voice might be more appropriate for an advisory board and if a graduate faculty were interested, they would be eligible as an at-large faculty rep.

Arguments in favor of an at-large representative focused on the idea that someone who puts their name forward for this position would likely be interested and will prepare for and attend meetings. On the other hand, this may result in the overrepresentation of one of the colleges (CASE was raised as a particular concern).

Subcommittees: The committee voted unanimously to delete the COEHS position for COLL and PROB (the only subcommittees in which COEHS is explicitly represented), and change CAS to CASE in all subcommittees.

Next Steps: The DGE will ask the SEC to add this to the September agenda.

Additional Comment: The committee also discussed adding a non-voting student representative. This is connected to the discussion of an advisory board.

- Dates for Summer Retreat

The director will send out an email requesting blocks of days during the summer during which members will be unavailable.