DISCOVERY AND ENHANCEMENT OF STUDENT LEARNING

A GENERAL EDUCATION REPORT DISCUSSION GUIDE

Purpose: All evidence of student learning collected in the General Education program is regularly aggregated, analyzed, and publically reported online. Assessment of student learning involves the discussion and use of these reports to modify and improve our program over time. To this end, all online General Education reports have embedded moderated discussion boards for your feedback and comments. These online discussions offer an extended opportunity for everyone to seriously consider and debate any of the data, conclusions, or proposals made in the reports.

Etiquette: Discussions must be kept civil at all times, maintaining respect for individuals and groups even when there are differences of opinion. Specifically, these fora cannot be used for content which is offensive or abusive to any specific person or group and users should not make threats under any circumstance. Inappropriate comments may be deleted and disruptive posters may be blocked at the moderator's discretion.

Suggested Topics: This document outlines some of the issues that you might consider when commenting in these forums. It is the hope of the University General Education Committee that all faculty will actively participate in the evaluation of our General Education evidence using these discussion boards.

1) **The Nature of the Reporting Courses**
   - Are the courses included in the report representative of those mapped to the learning outcome evaluated?
   - Are courses from a variety of prefixes used to measure the learning outcome? Or, does one course prefix dominate the report data?
   - Are courses from several different levels used to measure the learning outcome?

2) **Measure Utilization**
   - Are the types of measures used appropriate for the learning outcome?
   - Are a variety of measures used to measure the outcome?

3) **Pedagogy Utilization**
   - Are the types of pedagogies used appropriate for the learning outcome?
   - Are a variety of pedagogies used to measure the outcome?

4) **Detecting Patterns**
   - Is there discernable skew or kurtosis in the overall distribution of rubric scores in the report?
   - Are there any patterns discernable in the data (by course prefix, by course level, by measure, etc.)?

5) **Interpretations**
   - Do you agree or disagree with the interpretations of data in the report?
   - Can you provide alternate explanations or context for the results in the report?
   - What additional confounding factors may complicate interpretation of data in the report?

6) **Applications**
   - What actions might be taken in light of the data in the report?

7) **Suggestions**
   - How might the process used to generate the report be improved?
   - What additional information could be included to improve the report?

8) **Other Comments**
   - You are not limited to the topics listed above. If you have other comments, suggestions, or concerns, you should feel free to submit those as well!