

General Education Program Review Ad Hoc Committee

Friday, May 29, 2015

10:00 a.m.

Thomas Edison (Lee) Campus: U-202B

Charlotte Campus: O-118

Minutes

Attendees: Professor Jane Charles, Dr. Wendy Chase, Dr. Eileen DeLuca, Dr. Rebecca Harris, Professor George Manacheril, Dr. Brian Page, Professor Don Ransford, Dr. Amy Trogan

Minutes from the May 7, 2015, meeting were approved with no corrections.

Nominations for the position of Chair of the Committee were accepted from the floor. Don Ransford was the only nomination and was elected unanimously.

After a short discussion in consideration of the meeting schedule for the rest of the summer, the schedule with Friday meetings in Summer A and Wednesday meetings in Summer B was agreed upon. Eileen will verify the dates and times and will send the information out to all committee members prior to the next meeting.

Committee members were directed to scan the variety of artifacts provided prior to the meeting by individual members in response to the assignment from the May 7th meeting. A discussion unfolded surrounding the prioritizing of developing general education competencies and/or a mission statement for general education. General consensus seemed to view the two as interdependent. Therefore, the chair recommended that the members provide their opinions concerning the aforementioned documents. A healthy exchange of ideas resulted.

The Chair posed the question of "What distinguishes a high school general education from an Associate's Degree general education?" to the committee. A variety of reactions were shared including suggestions for specific terms and concepts that may need to be included in our general education mission and/or competencies to help highlight that distinction. Among the suggestions were *transformation, discourse, STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics), global awareness, complex/complexity, interdisciplinary, and building on previously mastered skills and concepts.*

A short discussion took place clarifying the goals and charge of our ad hoc committee. The conclusion was drawn that we are to develop a general education mission statement and general education competencies by the beginning of January, 2016. However, drafts of both of these documents will be taken to each department for suggestions and vetting prior to the January deadline.

The Chair concluded the meeting with the assignment of each member developing a bulleted list or outline of their vision of general education competencies while referencing the artifacts and suggestions presented at today's meeting. In addition, if they felt prepared to do so, they should begin the development of a general education mission statement.

DRAFT