

MINUTES

General Education Council

September 09, 2019

3:45 p.m.

ADUC 320

Present: Dr. Laurie Couch, Dr. Shannon Harr, Dr. Chris Schroeder, Dr. Greg Corso, Mr. Keith Moore, Ms. Lora Pace, Dr. David Gregory, Dr. Dirk Grupe, Dr. Christina Conroy, Dr. Kim Sharp, Dr. Mike Fultz, Dr. Robert Royar, Dr. Chris Beckham, Dr. Wilson Gonzalez-Espada, Dr. Mark Graves (guest/ENG)

Absent: Ms. Kerry Murphy, Dr. Bo Shi

I. Minutes from April 5, 2019 Meeting

Dr. Fultz made a motion to approve minutes from the April 5, 2019 meeting. Dr. Sharp seconded the motion. The General Education Council (GEC) voted and approved the minutes.

II. Preliminary Assessment Report for 2019SP and 2018-19 (Dr. Harr, Presentation Attached)

Assessment data for Fall 2018 and Spring 2019 are combined and reported as the 2018-19 assessment year. General Education Assessment goals are:

70% of students will be assessed on each SLO

70% of students will attain the Student Learning Outcome

The presentation included the following information:

- No data was submitted for 19 sections in Fall 2018 and for 39 sections in Spring 2019. Of these 58 sections, 23 are Eagle Scholar sections and 35 are MSU faculty/instructor sections.
- Pending SLO 2d results, Fall 2018 data currently shows that we are meeting goals of 70% assessment and 70% attainment. SLO 2d (articulate ethical consequences of decisions or actions) meets the assessment goal but is still being analyzed to determine attainment percentage. Lora Pace reported that the results would be submitted soon.
- Spring 2019 data currently shows that we are meeting the goal of 70% attainment; however, seven SLO's are not meeting the goal of 70% assessed.
- When combining the preliminary data for both semesters the goals of 70% assessment and 70% attainment are being met on all SLOs that can currently be reported on. Additional data is needed for 1c, 2a, 2c, 2d.

The committee discussed methods of requesting data from faculty. Dr. Harr has contacted the instructors, department chairs, associate deans, deans, and Joel Pace (for Eagle Scholar sections) at several different interval points. The request has also come from the provost, in addition to being discussed at dean's council meetings. It is not a particular group of people who are not reporting data.

The hope is to receive the data in sufficient time to include in the assessment report that must be submitted in late October.

III. Assessment Action Plan Updates (Dr. Harr)

Action Plan for Implementation - ENG 200 SLOs

- Mandating (and reminding instructors) that the culminating essay of the ENG 200 semester is a research paper with an argumentative thesis, defined as a debatable proposition reasonable people can disagree about
- Requiring that faculty use, verbatim, a standardized research paper assignment, requiring an argumentative thesis, a specified number and type of sources, and counterarguments
- Consolidating textbook lists and eliminating an ENG 200 textbook shown to produce problematic assessment documents
- Reviewing and revising our ENG 200 assessment scoring guide to ensure all readers have a clear, shared sense of each performance indicator
- Distributing in classes that assessment rubric, with explanation to students of desired outcomes
- (anticipated) Improving calibration on the day of communal assessment (Twice a year: August and January)

Action Plan for Implementation - Capstone Survey

This survey is an indirect measure of SLO attainment used in addition to the direct measures. It is administered by Laurie Couch's office every Spring and Fall semester to all students enrolled in a capstone course.

- New supplemental instruction is occurring in the enhanced mathematics courses that may help to address mathematics related questions
- Wording of question should be modified "I can communicate how two or more things are related using (other)" Suggestion is to strike or re-word.
- Training for faculty to assist students with management of mathematics
- Wording of the following question about general education experience "The General Education Program created a questioning spirit in me that will continue throughout my life" Suggestion is to change "created" to "inspired".

Dr. Couch noted that the survey changes are being implemented in Fall 2019.

IV. Other Assessment Related items:

Beginning this fall, the form for data collection will be different and it will require reporting for each individual section to allow for detailed analysis. Dr. Harr will bring a copy of the form to the next meeting to obtain feedback. Dr. Conroy requested that faculty be informed of the change now. Dr. Couch solicited input with how to best communicate the changes to faculty. Dr. Grupe suggested through Faculty Senate and Dr. Sharp suggested through the chain of command. If using multiple routes, Dr. Royar impressed the importance of the accuracy across them.

Dr. Harr will present up-to-date data for discussion at the next meeting. The reporting deadline for fall data is January 10. The data presented at the next meeting will need voted upon by the council for inclusion in the CPE report due January 10. The committee discussed ideas to foster compliance among faculty to submit assessment data including offering assistance/workshops, tie to performance evaluations, adjunct contracts, face-to-face requests, completion of a rising junior exam and others. Dr. Couch asked members of the council to please make any headway in their departments they can to get data submitted.

V. General Education Implementation Team Report (Dr. Couch)

The General Education Implementation Team has been working to match the new general education Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) with the courses in the new general education program. A survey will be sent to faculty requesting feedback on this. Current discussion includes the use of the Association of American Colleges & Universities Value Rubrics to score activities related to the SLO's. Drs. Couch, Harr and Schroeder agreed and commented that these rubrics were widely used and respected, endorsed by the CPE, and align mostly with what is needed. Dr. Couch stated that the goal was to use these a starting point and modifying slightly to match our specific SLOs. A decision has been made for each courses to assess two SLOs, instead of the current three. The goal is to establish the general education program by the end of the semester and plan for Fall 2020 implementation.

VI. Council/Council Membership (Dr. Couch)

The committee discussed the make-up of the committee and the possibility of ongoing representation from all components of the general education program. Dr. Couch stated that changes to assessment procedures may also impact the purpose and need for the committee. She asked the committee be considering these items for future discussion.