

**The Minutes of
THE GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE
OF
ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY**

The General Education Committee met Tuesday, November 19, 2013 at 4:00 p.m. in Rothwell 206. The following were present:

Dr. Jackie Bowman	Dr. J.J. Mayo
Dr. Cheryl Chaney	Ms. Karen Riddell
Dr. Erin Clair	Dr. David Roach
Ms. Gwen Faulkenberry	Ms. Jennifer Saxton
Dr. Theresa Herrick	Dr. Joseph Swain
Dr. Justin Killingsworth	

Absent: Mr. Zack Crossett

Guests: Dr. Monica Varner and Mr. Wyatt Watson

Call to Order Dr. Swain called the meeting to order and turned it over to Mr. Wyatt Watson to speak to the committee about data collection and ARGOS reporting.

Data Collection Mr. Watson started out by telling the committee that one of the things he had learned from going to various conferences was that General Education Assessment data was being collected using samples and was not being connected to the students (anonymous). He felt that to determine the students who were not doing satisfactorily, you needed to keep the data connected to the individual student, so he and Dr. Carey Roberts started working on the system to correct this. Mr. Watson then went on to explain the CPGE (Course, Program, and Gen. Ed. Assessment Data) form in Banner where the data is entered. Dr. Mayo asked Mr. Watson who had access to input data in to this form and Mr. Watson said that requirements for this form were similar to those for inputting final grades. Anyone can request access to this form and members of the General Education Committee would meet the requirements. This form is found in Self-Service Banner under Faculty Services. Once the faculty are in the CPGE form, they will score the objectives for each student as determined by their department. The departments determine the means of assessment for their courses. Mr. Watson also told the committee that it is not necessary to wait until the end of the semester to input data if the objective they are assessing is met before then. He also said that data can be collected for any course, not just General Education courses since General Education Goals may change in the future.

Mr. Watson brought up the CPGE form and demonstrated how to input the data and how some objectives can be linked to more than one of the

General Education outcomes. For example, the quantitative analysis objective in College Algebra can be linked to both quantitative reasoning and scientific reasoning.

ARGOS

Mr. Watson then pulled up the General Assessment Report in ARGOS to show the committee and told them that they can request access to ARGOS in order to run these reports. He then showed them the courses that are currently enabled for CPGE and explained how the courses are cross-linked with the General Education goals. This report is focused solely on General Education and uses students with a minimum of 35 lower division earned hours of coursework at Tech who are currently enrolled in at least one CPGE enabled course. This report can be broken down into categories such as residency, gender, major, etc. The report uses unduplicated head count, not enrollment, which means that if a student is taking more than one course used in the report, they are still only counted once. The value in the report is the percentage of students that passed the objectives. The percentage that is considered a “pass” is 60 percent which was previously determined by the General Education Committee.

Mr. Watson suggested to the committee that they might want to look at how the goals are being measured. Right now all measures are being counted and averaged. They might want to consider whether it would be better to just use the most recent measures and also consider if it should only be General Education courses. Dr. Varner suggested maybe running the top 15 General Education courses.

Mr. Watson then showed the committee the Course Assessment Report. This report is course based, not section based, and is by enrollment, not head count, so students would be counted more than once if they had taken a course more than once. The committee discussed this report and commented that they need to be more familiar with the numbers going in to these reports.

Dr. Varner told the committee that all General Education core courses need to be enabled for the CPGE, but that right now only about one-third are participating. The committee discussed how the data needs to be measured and looked at whether it is more appropriate to use just the most recent data.

Approval of Minutes

At that point Dr. Swain stopped the discussion and asked for approval of the minutes from the October meeting, since some of the members needed to leave. Dr. Herrick mentioned that her name had been misspelled in the minutes and asked for that to be corrected. She also requested that the minutes be distributed to the committee for review within one week after each meeting. Ms. Saxton made the motion to approve the minutes with the correction. Dr. Chaney seconded the motion. Motion passed.

CPGE Form The committee then discussed approving the CPGE Assessment form that Dr. Varner had developed to assist faculty in adding courses to the CPGs. Dr. Varner distributed a copy of the form to the committee. There was some discussion about how to complete the form and what the A and B were referencing on the form. Dr. Varner explained that the “Apply Scientific and Quantitative Reasoning” and the “Communicate Effectively” both have two criteria each, so the A and B were in reference to those. Dr. Bowman made the motion to approve the form. Dr. Killingsworth seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Other Business Since there were still several questions about data collection and ARGOS reporting, the committee decided to invite Mr. Watson back early next year to speak to them again on these.

Adjournment The meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.