

General Education Committee Meeting August 18, 2016 2:00 pm RC Brown 355

1. Introductions
2. Cover selection of next Gen Ed Chair (will elect at our first official meeting)
3. Preference for meeting time
4. Responsibilities of Gen Ed Committee
5. Orientation for new members
6. Introduce Blackboard site
7. Passport overview

*Approved  
9-12-16*

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

The General Education Committee met Thursday, August 18, 2016 at 2:00 p.m. in Brown 355.  
The following were present:

Dr. Christine Austin	Dr. Thomas Nupp
Dr. Jackie Bowman	Ms. Karen Riddell
Dr. Pam Carr	Dr. David Roach
Ms. Cheryl Chaney	Dr. Jeremy Schwehm
Ms. Nancy Cox	Dr. David Ward
Dr. Patrick Hagge	
Dr. Theresa Herrick	

Absent: Ms. Gwen Faulkenberry, Dr. Mohammed Ibrahim

Call to Order	Dr. Schwehm called the meeting to order and, since there were a couple of new members, asked everyone to introduce themselves.
Elections	Dr. Schwehm told the committee the elections for chair-elect and secretary would be held at the next official meeting and that anyone in their second year would be eligible for that. He asked them to be thinking about whether they would want to be chair-elect.
Meetings	He also asked everyone to email him any specific times for this semester that they would not be available to meet. He asked the committee if they wanted to continue to use the Doodle scheduler that has been used in past semesters to schedule the meetings. The committee agreed to continue using this to schedule meetings.
Responsibilities	Dr. Schwehm reiterated the responsibilities and purpose of the General Education Committee; the primary responsibility being general education assessment. The committee is also responsible for review of general education goals, evaluating proposals, and articulating the general education goals. He told the committee he would like to have a schedule timeline worked out this year of how we conduct this assessment. This was started last year. He also told the committee he had spoken with Dr. Bowman and discussed what kind of authorities the committee had and he thought this was something else the committee needed to discuss as they were going through Passport and what recommendations they would have. He said the committee needed to look at how people are assessing and what criteria is being used. He thinks that Passport will help with this. A lot of the aligning has already been done with Passport. Dr. Bowman

suggested that the committee might be able to recommend to the Curriculum Committee that departments not doing their assessment and inputting their data, have their courses removed from the general education core. The committee then asked Dr. Austin how assessment was being done now. Dr. Austin told the committee that CPGE was being used and that Wyatt Watson was setting this up in Banner for departments. She said this was hit and miss right now. She said this needed to be revisited since, right now, what was gotten was a GPA for the course which didn't always meet that general education requirement because the course isn't the entire requirement. Dr. Bowman commented that Passport would help with this assessment since there were already things in place to use and it was also cross-discipline.

#### Orientation

Dr. Bowman reported to the committee that she had the Blackboard shell built with the orientation materials for the committee members. She said all faculty would be able to access this site (they would be set up as students), but members of the committee will be set up as instructors. She demonstrated the site to the committee. This is a work in progress and will need to have some things added such as assigned tasks, goals, minutes and Passport handouts. The committee thought this would help a lot with communication of what the committee is doing.

#### Passport Overview

Dr. Schwehm told the committee he would like to invite Dr. Abdelrahman, Dr. Underwood, Dr. Woods, and Tammy Weaver to the next meeting to talk to the committee about the Passport Initiative.

Dr. Schwehm then gave a brief overview of Passport telling the committee that Passport has lots of information and a basic framework for the committee to use and opens up lots of possibilities to match the administration's goals for certificates, stackability, etc. For this year, he would like to formally evaluate this as a way of getting our general education goals set and to then apply to be a Passport institution. He also thought this would give the committee an objective way to look at new courses. Dr. Hagge told the committee that he had attended a summer Passport conference and was sold on the concept. He thought this could really help students with transferability from other Passport institutions. The committee discussed that there was a nominal fee for Passport, but this could easily be recuperated. The committee also discussed that ADHE is in favor of this initiative and that Arkansas Tech could be the first college in Arkansas to be a Passport institution.

Meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m.