

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

The General Education Committee met Monday, February 13, 2017 at 12:00 p.m. in Brown 355. The following were present:

Dr. Christine Austin	Dr. Thomas Nupp
Cheryl Chaney	Karen Riddell
Dr. Patrick Hagge	Dr. Jeremy Schwehm
Dr. Mohammed Ibrahim	Dr. David Ward

Absent: Dr. Pam Carr, Nancy Cox, Gwen Faulkenberry, Dr. Theresa Herrick, Matthew Smith

Approval of Minutes Dr. Schwehm called the meeting to order and asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the November meeting. Dr. Nupp made a motion to approve. Dr. Hagge seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Passport Proposal Dr. Schwehm distributed a copy of a Curriculum Proposal he had put together for the General Education Committee to send to the Curriculum Committee's next meeting as a recommendation for approval to become a member of the Interstate Passport Initiative. With the Curriculum Committee's approval, the proposal would then go to the Faculty Senate for their approval. He explained the process would begin with the committees within colleges being organized and putting together the proficiency criteria and finding ways to evaluate and assess the learning outcomes. This process would start Fall 2017 with the hope of actually starting the Passport Initiative in the Fall of 2018, unless we were very aggressive and then could possibly start with the Spring 2018. He then asked the committee for any comments or concerns on the proposal. Dr. Hagge asked what needed to happen if someone on the Curriculum Committee found that their class was not listed on the proposal and wanted to know why. Dr. Schwehm said it needed to be communicated to everyone that nothing was set in stone and that things could be changed and would actually probably need to be changed as this was just the beginning. He added that there would be plenty of opportunities for faculty feedback and input on this. Dr. Schwehm said he had been asked what this would mean as far as proposals for courses to be added to the General Education courses. He thought this process would actually make things easier since we would now have a framework to start with and right now we don't.

Dr. Schwehm told the committee he had worked with Dr. Austin on the framework for assessment. He thought that if we adopt the rubrics, those could be used as a starting point. He said if the faculty would put everything in Blackboard, the different programs could pull from

Blackboard making the process easier. The committee discussed that some faculty did not use Blackboard and might not be as willing to use it.

Dr. Schwehm said the next action was for the committee to vote on whether to go forward with sending this proposal to the Curriculum Committee for their approval and then on to the Faculty Senate. Dr. Hagge made a motion to go forward with sending the proposal to become a member institution of the Interstate Passport Initiative up the chain for approval. Dr. Ward seconded the motion. Motion passed. Dr. Schwehm told the committee that he is on both the Curriculum Committee and the Faculty Senate, so he would be at the meetings to discuss the proposal and that both Dr. Austin and Tammy Weaver would also be at the meetings.

Dr. Schwehm told the committee they would probably meet one more time before the Curriculum Committee meeting and that he would email the committee members that were absent from the meeting to get any input from them.

Ms. Chaney made a motion to adjourn. Dr. Ward seconded. Meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m.