

ATU General Education Committee  
February 25, 2021  
3:02pm CST

Minutes

- I. Approve January 2021 meeting minutes
  - Motion: John O’Conner
  - Seconded: David Ward
  - Discussion: n/a
  - Abstentions: 0
  - Objections: 0
  - Motions passed**
  
- II. Courses Submitted for Consideration as Part of the General Education Curriculum
  - BLAW 1033: Law for Life: Understanding the Law and Personal Legal Issues  
**On hold by department due to budgetary restraints**
  
- III. General Education Program Review, Phase 2: Revised General Education Goals
  - A. Draft of Revised General Education Goals from Subcommittee
  - B. Next Steps - **Jeff Woods**
    - a. Questions: assumptions for all classes including Ethics and Critically Thinking (and possibly Diversity)
    - b. Need feedback from the Gen Ed Committee. Jeff cannot do this alone.
      - i. Make an itemized list of what needs to be addressed and what to move on.
      - ii. The Boston University model needs to be adapted to fit us better.
      - iii. Need rubrics to help determine what outcomes can be added to what courses
    - c. Need to meet State and University requirements.
    - d. Jeff create an example model for Engineering and how the courses can fulfill different categories for their Gen Ed and what can be accepted to fulfill the goals. How can Prerequisite course might also fulfill Gen Ed requirements.
    - e. How can co-curricular activities can help fulfill come Gen Ed requirements like student services helping with the Health or Gobal Prespective requirements. This cannot cross over into the State requirements like English or Math requirements.
    - f. Gen Ed committee will have to certify what courses fulfill what requirements and then help assess it as time goes on. Need to keep in mind to have Gen Ed requirements be through a broad range of course (not specialized within the student’s major/department).
    - g. What is the timing to implement this?
    - h. Jeff needs all Gen Ed Committee members all review the proposal and send him feedback. Deadline March 11<sup>th</sup>.

- IV. Need to get last months approved coursed into the course catalog. There is a delay
  - 1. There was questioning of where Gen Ed Committee falls (Curriculum or, Faculty Senate) Its Faculty Senate.
  - 2. These courses do not need approval by the state.
  
- V. HLC Workshop on Assessing General Education
  - A. Assessment plan for ATU General Education (see page 2 of this agenda) (included at the bottom of the minutes)
    - 1. Currently assessing the scientific reasoning.
    - 2. First time is a pilot and then re-assess the next year. (Implementing stage)
    - 3. Need to include the department heads to work with the subcommittee
  - B. HLC's response to our assessment plan
    - 1. Concerns that our plan is too ambitious; suggest developing rubrics over time rather than all at once
    - 2. Make certain that faculty are engaged in every step of the process
    - 3. Have a clear plan in advance for how we will use data to improve student learning
    - 4. Complimented our careful thought, how productive we are, and our awareness of ATU's challenges regarding assessment
  
- VI. Incorporation of Civic Engagement Goal
  - A. March 4 workshop
  - B. Performance indicators for rubric (HLC)
    - a. Need to have draft by next month (18<sup>th</sup> March)
  
- VII. Incorporation of Diversity and Equity Goal
  - A. Performance indicators for rubric (HLC)
    - a. Need to have draft by next month (18<sup>th</sup> March)
  
- VIII. Assessment: Report from Subcommittee: General Education Assessment
  - David Ward will submit to Erin by end of next week
  - A. Results from Fall 2020 assessment of Goal 2: Apply Scientific and Quantitative Reasoning
    - Report to go to all faculty teaching under this goal with a required response date
  - B. Spring 2021 Assessment of Goal 3: Apply the Value of the Arts and Humanities: rubric attached in email
  
- IX. Open Forum
  - Question about Jeremy Schwin's proposal course from last month. He is still working on it

Closed 3:43pm

Addendum: ATU's General Education Assessment Plan Submitted to HLC:

1. Identify any additional ideas, questions, or issues that have emerged from the discussion this morning.

- Redesign our method of course-by-course assessment using rubric assessments*
- Include a pre (in first-year English) and post (before graduation) assessment in writing*

2. Review your planning notes. What do you need to start doing? Stop doing? Modify? Create?

*Once our revised general education goals are approved by faculty senate, create or revise rubrics for each goal. Tie these rubrics into the course assessments via the CPGE system. Integrate this rubric into the course proposal system for the GE curriculum so all faculty are aware of expectations from the start.*

3. Which tasks are most critical? Identify your top three priorities for this academic year. What are your action steps for this fall? What are the action steps for next spring?

1. *Program structure: get revised GE goals approved, create or revise rubrics for goals, integrate rubrics into CPGE (course-by-course) assessments in Banner, continue the beta testing cycle for second-tier assessments (\*see schedule below)*
2. *Communication to faculty: Assessment portion included in Academic Affairs newsletter. For next newsletter: 1) report out Scientific/Quantitative Reasoning assessment results with plan for faculty recommendations, 2) announcement upcoming workshop in Civic Engagement goal, 3) announce Diversity teaching resource submissions link*
3. *Professional development: faculty badge in assessment, including modules in general education through the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning*

\*

- *Goal: Scientific/Quantitative Reasoning; report out beta testing from Fall 2020 assessment, and deploy another assessment this semester in a sampling of sections with this goal.*
- *Goal: Arts & Humanities: beta testing of assessment is taking place this semester, with full assessment taking place Fall 2021*
- *Goal: Civic Engagement: revise assessment rubric, with beta testing in Fall 2021*
- *Goal: Think Critically: design assessment tool with beta testing in Fall 2021*
- *Goal: Ethical Perspectives: revise assessment rubric and decide assessment tool, with beta testing in Spring 2022*
- *Goal: Communicate Effectively: send Spring 2020 assessment tool to faculty for revision. Beta testing in Spring 2022*