General Education Committee Meeting Minutes

April 8, 2021

Members Present: Nancy Diller, Carol Van Der Karr, Lauren Delaubell, Daniel Radus, Douglas Armstead, Garrett Otto, Gregory Ketcham, Eunyoung Jung, Mecke Nagel, Ryan Fiddler, Stephen Cunningham

Members Absent : Daniel Reischer

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Topic** | **Comments** | **Action** |
| **Approval of Minutes** |  | **Approved** |
| **Announcements** | * Letters, with forms, sent to faculty who have classes being assessed. Due back in late May.
 |  |
| **SUNY GEAC Draft**  | * Most categories look somewhat similar to existing GEs, but SLOs are quite different. If accepted as is, might require rather substantive curricular changes (especially if courses are not grandfathered into new GE categories). For example, GE 8: Arts restricts subject to “application,” potentially invalidating Art History as appropriate for GE 8.
* Discussion about language and pedagogical choices around ideas of “decolonizing” curriculum and “global learning” in the context of Western history.
* Primary concerns:
	+ Clarifications needed, especially “crosswalk” between existing and proposed SLOs
	+ Timing around proposed “sweeping changes”—things seem rushed, especially in the time of the pandemic
	+ Barely moved through two assessment cycles in existing GE structure; haven’t closed the loop on existing assessment
	+ Proposal overestimates the amount that can be done within 30-credit GE framework
	+ No clear distinction in document between “knowledge” and “competency”
	+ Proposal has unstated and unconsidered implications for transfer students and for education students
* SUNY might consider instead setting goals and then having campuses devise learning outcomes from those goals that SUNY would then approve.
* Discussion about the impetus for change to GE categories at SUNY
	+ Mismatch between Middle States and SUNY GEs
	+ Issues with community colleges
	+ These two issues brought the subject to the table, but has “snowballed” from there
 | **Send further comments to Lauren by end of day 9 Apr 2021****Consider sending document when finalized to Faculty Senate and to other campuses (in addition to normal channels)** |

Submitted by

Daniel Radus