

GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE
257th Meeting
Thursday, September 17, 2020

MINUTES

Present: O. Ghrayeb (VP, Undergraduate Education), R. Caughron (BC, Chair), A. Schatteman (BC), J. Pendergrass (BUS), P. Smith (EDU), R. Sinko (EET), M. Cooke (HHS), S. Sharp (LAS/SS), L. Sunderlin (CLAS/ NS), C. Abreu (CLAS/H), B. Broom (CVPA), S. Estes (Director Academic Advising CLAS), K. Robinson (CHHS, Student), R. Subramony (AVP Academic Assessment), C. Zack (Academic Assessment), D. Halverson (CC/CE)

The meeting was called to order by Vice Provost Omar Ghrayeb with opening comments for the academic year 2020-2021.

I. Adoption of Agenda: Ghrayeb called for a motion to adopt the agenda. Caughron so moved and this was seconded by Estes with no discussion. **Motion passed unanimously.**

II. Announcements:

A. New and returning members of the GEC introduced themselves and discussed why they wanted to serve.

III. Nomination of GEC Chair: Ghrayeb explained the role of the Chair and thanked Rod Caughron for his exemplary service in this role for the academic year 2019-2020. Nominations were requested for the Chair. Caughron was nominated and approved via acclamation of the committee.

IV. New Business:

A. The proposal for changes to Bylaws on student appointment to the GEC was discussed. Members were informed that this policy had been approved by the Baccalaureate Council and was submitted to the Policy Library to continue the evaluation through the shared governance process.

B. Ghrayeb called for a motion to discuss the need for a written policy to,

1. Clarify how the Illinois Articulation Initiative mandates NIU accept general education courses for students who did not complete an associate's degree.
2. Determine if this is being consistently applied for D grades in the Foundational Studies Quantitative requirement.

Pendergrass so moved and this was seconded by Sharp. It was agreed that language needs to be crafted to address these issues. Estes agreed to craft this language for review by the GEC at the October 15, 2020 meeting.

C. Ghrayeb called for a motion to discuss the timing of placing newly approved General Education and Pathway courses into the catalog. Pendergrass so moved and this was seconded by Sharp. It was agreed that the language crafted, to address this issue,

should include deadlines of October 15 for inclusion in the catalog for the following spring term and March 15 for inclusion in the catalog for the following summer and fall terms. This item will be on the October 15, 2020 GEC agenda for a vote. If approved, this language will be forwarded to the Baccalaureate Council, as a recommendation by this standing committee of the BC, for review and approval.

V. Old Business

- A. Ghrayeb and Caughron led a re-cap discussion of the Pathways memorandum that was produced by the GEC last year. Ghrayeb will determine the timing on when the GEC will move the memorandum forward to the Baccalaureate Council.

New business for the year was briefly discussed and will focus on review of the courses being offered for General Education beginning with a frequency examination. It was requested that Halverson obtain up to date data for this purpose.

- VI. Adjournment** – Ghrayeb called for a motion to adjourn at 2:11 pm. Estes so moved and Pendergrass seconded. The motion was **APPROVED unanimously**.

Respectfully submitted by Denise Halverson, Curriculum Coordinator/ Catalog Editor.