

GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

**October 15, 2020
12:30 – 1:23 p.m.
Teams Virtual Meeting**

MINUTES

Present: O. Ghrayeb (VP, Undergraduate Education), R. Caughron (BC, Chair), A. Schatteman (BC), M. Myles (BC), 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), J. Lung (CLAS, Student), R. Subramony (AVP Academic Assessment), C. Zack (Academic Assessment), D. Halverson (CC/CE)

The meeting was called to order by Rod Caughron.

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

II. Announcements:

A. Jordan Lung was introduced as the new CLAS Student Representative on the GEC.

III. New Business:

A. Caughron discussed how the Pathways recommendations formulated by the GEC AY 2019-2020 will be held at the Provost level, until such a time that it is deemed appropriate to; either move the recommendations forward to the BC or discontinue the Pathways program. An exit strategy will then be implemented to phase out the program.

Looking towards this academic year and the tasks for the committee, Caughron discussed assessment goals, criteria for general education course requirements, and assessing how the criteria for the three Knowledge Domains are achieved in the courses housed within the them. To operationalize these tasks the GEC will partner with Ritu Subramony, the program director of Accreditation, Assessment, and Evaluation (AAE), to evaluate the student learning outcomes of general education courses and map those to the criteria set out for each domain.

While the GEC will not be responsible for the data collection portion of this project, they will look at the aggregated assessment data to determine if general education courses are meeting the student learning outcomes. The AAE will provide several models to help determine what data is necessary and how the GEC could use these to successfully evaluate both courses and domain functionality.

Ghrayeb included a review of the Foundational Studies Quantitative Literacy component. A survey of Illinois state and regional institutions will be undertaken to assist in determining if NIU is aligned with other schools in the region on this critical component of general education.

IV. Old Business

- A. Estes presented a proposal to update the catalog language for the Foundational Studies Quantitative Literacy component. This language clarifies how IAI equivalency courses meet this component for transfer students. Caughron asked for a motion to approve the proposal and forward it the Bacalaureate Council for final approval. Myles so moved and this was seconded by Smith; the motion was **APPROVED unanimously**.

- V. **Adjournment** – Caughron called for a motion to adjourn at 1:23 pm. Estes so moved and Brown seconded; the motion was **APPROVED unanimously**.

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