

General Education Committee 2016-2017

Membership

Chair

Lane Wilkinson, LIBR

Members

Aniekan Ebiefung, MATH; Lauren Ingraham, ENGL; Joseph Jordan, ENGL; Elaina Lundgrin, ENGL; Han Park, CHEM; Lynn Purkey, SPAN; Kira Robison, HIST; Will Sutton, ENGR; Annie Tracy, HIST; Christina Vogel, ART; Caroline Waldron (student);

Ex officio

David Rausch (Assoc. Provost for Academic Affairs, *ex officio*); Dawn Ford (Director of Walker Center for Teaching and Learning, *ex officio*); Sandy Zitkus (University Registrar, *ex officio*)

Meetings

The committee met 6 times: 9/2/16, 10/21/16, 11/11/16, 11/29/16, 12/14/16, 1/10/17.

One further meeting is scheduled for 4/7/17

Minutes are attached (Appendix 3)

Activities

28 courses sought recertification under 30 General Education categories (two courses were dual-certified).

Eight courses applied for General Education certification under seven categories (one course sought dual-certification).

15 petitions were considered; one petition will be considered on April 7, 2017.

On October 21, Dr. Greg O'Dea asked the committee to consider revising the recertification schedule for 11 UHON courses due for recertification in 2018-2019. Dr. O'Dea requested that five UHON courses (1020, 3510, 3520, 3530, 3540) be moved to the 2017-2018 recertification schedule. The committee approved the updated recertification schedule by a vote of 7-0-0.

On January 19, 2017, the committee chair, Lane Wilkinson, presented a motion to Faculty Senate to declare a moratorium on certification and recertification of courses for general education credit for the 2017-2018 academic year (Appendix 1). This motion is a response to the creation of a new General Education Steering Committee tasked with evaluating the structure of the General Education program (Appendix 2). The Senate approved the motion unanimously (26-0-0).

Voting Record

Recertifications

Course	Title	Category	Date	Outcome	Yea	Nay	Abstain
CRMJ 2950	Violence Against Women	Behavioral & Social Science	Friday, October 21, 2016	recertify	7	0	0
SOC 1510	Introduction to Sociology	Behavioral & Social Science	Friday, October 21, 2016	recertify	7	0	0

THSP 1150	Theatre: Introduction to Performance	Visual & Performing Arts	Friday, October 21, 2016	decertify	7	0	0
ART 1110	Introduction to Art	Visual & Performing Arts	Friday, November 11, 2016	recertify	6	0	0
ASTR 1010	Introduction to Astronomy: The Solar System	Natural Science non-Lab	Friday, November 11, 2016	extend certification for two years	6	0	0
HHP 4070	Sociology & Psychology of Exercise Science and Leisure Sports	Behavioral & Social Science	Friday, November 11, 2016	decertify	6	0	0
MUS 3130	America's Musical Heritage (formerly MUS 2120)	Visual & Performing Arts	Friday, November 11, 2016	extend certification for one year	6	0	0
SOC 1250	Sociology of Social Problems	Behavioral & Social Science	Friday, November 11, 2016	decertify	6	0	0
ASTR 1010 & 1010L	Introduction to Astronomy: The Solar System & Lab	Natural Science Lab	Wednesday, December 14, 2016	recertify	10	0	0
ASTR 1020 & 1020L	Introduction to Astronomy: Stars to Galaxies & Lab	Natural Science Lab	Wednesday, December 14, 2016	recertify	10	0	0
BIOL 1110	Principles of Biology I & Lab	Natural Science Lab	Wednesday, December 14, 2016	recertify	10	0	0
CRMJ 1100	Introduction to Criminal Justice System	Behavioral & Social Science	Wednesday, December 14, 2016	recertify	10	0	0
ENGL 1130	Western Humanities I	Literature	Wednesday, December 14, 2016	recertify	9	0	0
ENGL 1130	Western Humanities I	Thought, Values & Beliefs	Wednesday, December 14, 2016	extend certification for one year	10	0	0
ENGL 1330	Introduction to Literature	Literature	Wednesday, December 14, 2016	recertify	10	0	0
MATH 3100	Applied Statistics	Statistics	Wednesday, December 14, 2016	extend certification for one year	10	0	0
MATH 4140	Mathematical Statistics	Statistics	Wednesday, December 14, 2016	extend certification for one year	10	0	0
PSY 1010	Introduction to Psychology	Behavioral & Social Science	Wednesday, December 14, 2016	extend certification for one year	10	0	0
PSY 2410	Psychology of Individual Differences	Behavioral & Social Science	Wednesday, December 14, 2016	recertify	9	0	0

REL 2220	Biblical Literature II: New Testament	Literature	Wednesday, December 14, 2016	extend certification for one year	9	0	0
REL 2220	Biblical Literature II: New Testament	Thought, Values & Beliefs	Wednesday, December 14, 2016	extend certification for one year	9	0	0
REL 2360	Religion in American Life	Thought, Values & Beliefs	Wednesday, December 14, 2016	extend certification for one year	9	0	0
SOC 2500	Social Statistics	Statistics	Wednesday, December 14, 2016	recertify	10	0	0
WSTU 2000	Introduction to Women's Studies	Behavioral & Social Science	Wednesday, December 14, 2016	recertify	9	0	0
ENGL 1310	Values in 20th Century American Fiction	Literature	Tuesday, January 10, 2017	recertify	7	0	0
ENGL 2210	Survey of English Literature to 1800	Literature	Tuesday, January 10, 2017	decertify	7	0	0
GEOL 1160	Current Geological Perspectives on Earth	Natural Science non-Lab	Tuesday, January 10, 2017	recertify	7	0	0
PHYS 1030 & 1030L	General Physics: Mechanics and Heat & Lab	Natural Science Lab	Tuesday, January 10, 2017	recertify	7	0	0
POLS 1010	American Government	Behavioral & Soc Science	Friday, April 7, 2017				
THSP 2800	Introduction to Film	Visual & Performing Arts	Tuesday, January 10, 2017	extend certification for one year	7	0	0

New courses

<u>Course</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>Review date</u>	<u>Decision</u>	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abst</u>
PHIL 1200	World Philosophy	Non-Western Culture	1/10/17	Approve	7	0	0
PHIL 1200	World Philosophy	Thoughts, Values, Beliefs	1/10/17	Approve	6	0	1
PHIL/REL 2350	Popular Culture, Religion, and Philosophy	Thoughts, Values, and Beliefs	1/10/17	Approve	7	0	0
THSP 3210	Cultural Change through Great Speeches	Historical Understanding	1/10/17	Unable to review; lack of documentation			

THSP 3100	War Atrocities in Film	Thoughts, Values, Beliefs	1/10/17	Unable to review; lack of documentation			
ETR 1010	Entrepreneurship and Society	Behavioral and Social Sciences	1/10/17	Deny	7	0	0
INTS 1110	The Science of Sustainability	Natural Sciences	1/10/17	Approve	7	0	0
GEOG 1010	Physical Geography	Natural Sciences	1/10/17	Approve	7	0	0
HHP 1000	Personal Health	Behavioral and Social Sciences	1/10/17	Deny	7	0	0

Petitions

15 petitions were considered, submitted by 12 students. 4 petitions were approved; 11 petitions were rejected.

Attendance

	Present	Absent
Ebiefung	2	4
Ingraham	4	2
Jordan	4	2
Lundgrin	6	0
Park	4	0
Purkey	5	1
Robison	5	1
Sutton	5	1
Tracy	3	3
Vogel	4	2
Wilkinson	6	0
[Student]	0	6

ex officio

<i>Rausch</i>	4	2
<i>Ford</i>	6	0
<i>Zitkus</i>	4	0

other

Eva Lewis (OPEIR)	3	3
Melanie Dixson (Records)	3	3

Appendix 1: Motion to declare a moratorium on certification and recertification of courses for general education credit for 2017-2018

MOTION: The General Education Committee of the UTC Faculty Senate seeks a one year moratorium on certifying and recertifying courses for General Education credit, beginning July 1, 2017 and lasting through the 2017-2018 academic year.

RATIONALE: On February 7, 2013, by a vote of 17-3-2, the UTC Faculty Senate voted to adopt a new General Education curriculum with the following stated goals:

- Students should be able to more easily navigate the general education curricula, allowing them to complete their college studies in a more timely manner.
- By limiting the co- and prerequisites for general education courses to only other general education courses, students will not have to take several additional courses before even being allowed to take their general education courses.
- Learning outcomes for each category are better articulated for faculty and students.
- Departments will have increased opportunities to create general education courses that meet more than one category, offering exciting opportunities for our students.
- Some departments may realize fewer or more general education sections and offerings, which may impact staffing. We believe that these staffing issues can be addressed by proposing creative general education courses into which students will actively seek enrollment. The Committee cannot predict which departments may decide to not offer general education courses and which departments may decide to offer new general education courses that meet the new outcomes.
- The proposed curricula should not impact any transfer or articulation agreements already in place.

In the ensuing years, it has become increasingly clear that the General Education curriculum adopted in 2013 has failed to meet several of its intended goals. In particular:

- Students who elect to change majors are frequently unable to complete their studies in a timely manner given that many majors require specific general education courses as part of their Clear Path.
- Many general education courses continue to include co- or prerequisites that hinder timely advancement towards graduation.
- Many learning outcomes are still very abstruse and difficult for the General Education Committee to interpret consistently.
- Courses certified for more than one general education category are, by and large, failing to meet the learning outcomes of either category satisfactorily.
- The lack of continual attention to certified courses has lead previously consistent course curricula to begin to deviate wildly from the approved curriculum (a.k.a., “syllabus drift”).
- General education courses are still treated as a something to simply “get out of the way.”

Further, the Provost has convened a new, campus-wide steering committee to reevaluate the General Education curriculum, beginning Spring 2017 and lasting at least through Spring 2018. This new steering committee includes the members of the current Senate General Education committee, as well as representatives from departments and colleges across campus. The steering committee has been charged with the following tasks:

- Engage faculty and students in a thorough conversation about our General Education curriculum
- Establish clear guidelines and polices for the types of courses that can be considered for inclusion as General Education courses
- Establish a routine, regular assessment cycle of General Education courses

- Streamline General Educational offerings to eliminate navigational issues
- Ensure coherence with established standards of accrediting bodies

While a complete overhaul of the General Education curriculum is not guaranteed, there are bound to be some structural changes recommended by the new steering committee. Declaring a moratorium on certifications and recertifications for 2017-2018 would allow the Senate General Education committee greater flexibility to work with (and within) the campus Steering Committee to realign and readjust the general education curriculum. If the motion is passed, the Senate General Education Committee will do the following:

1. Continue to meet through the 2017-2018 academic year to evaluate student petitions for General Education transfer credit.
2. Give a one-year extension to all courses due for recertification in the 2017-2018 academic year, pending a possible new recertification process.
3. Post-pone all applications for initial certification to the 2018-2019 academic year.
4. Provide the Senate with regular updates on the decisions and deliberations of the campus steering committee.
5. Represent the interests of the Faculty Senate within the campus-wide steering committee.

PRECEDENT: On April 21, 2011, the Faculty Senate approved a similar motion to halt the General Education review process, pending the outcome of a review of the General Education curriculum.

Respectfully submitted by

Lane Wilkinson, General Education Committee Chair, 2015-2017

Appendix 2: General Education Steering Committee Charge

The General Education Steering Committee will initiate a review of the structure of our General Education curriculum. Outcomes of the evaluation process shall include:

- Engaging faculty and students in a thorough conversation about our General Education curriculum;
- Establishing clear guidelines and policies for the types of courses that can be considered for inclusion as General education courses;
- Establishing a routine, regular assessment cycle of General Education courses;
- Streamlining General Educational offerings to eliminate navigational issues;
- Ensuring coherence with established standards of accrediting bodies.

Appendix 3: Meeting Minutes

General Education Committee, 10/21/16

3:00 pm, LIBR 209

Agenda

1. Proposal to reschedule UHON certifications (Greg O'Dea)
2. MATH 1730 proposal
3. Courses to review
 - a. POLS 1010
 - b. THSP 1150
 - c. ENGL 1130
 - d. CRMJ 2950
 - e. SOC 1510
 - f. MATH 3100

Attending

Members: Lane Wilkinson, Will Sutton, Lanie Lundgrin, Kira Robison, Annie Tracy, Lauren Ingraham, Joseph Jordan

Ex officio: David Rausch, Sandy Zitkus, Dawn Ford

Guests: Greg O'Dea (UHON), Andrew Ledoan (MATH), Lucas van der Merwe (MATH), Helen Eigenberg (CRMJ), Makiko Hori (SOC)

Discussion

1. Proposal to reschedule UHON certifications
 - a. Greg O'Dea visits to address 11 UHON courses coming up for recertification in 2019-20
 - b. Asks that we spread out the courses a bit more, suggests moving the Fine Arts and Humanities courses to 2017-18 (UHON, 1020, 3510, 3520, 3530, 3540)
 - i. This should alleviate some burden on both the committee and on the Honor's College
 - ii. The History department will be advised to request a change to their recertification schedule also.
 - c. **Move approval (Sutton/Lundgrin), 7-0-0**
2. Courses to Review
 - a. POLS 1010
 - i. Seeks extension given that there are multiple new faculty members who are teaching the course in a new manner. Michelle Deardorff explains:

"POLS 1010 American Government (Social and Behavioral Sciences) is up for recertification this academic year. I am requesting a one-year extension. Our department—due to seven retirements over the last four years—has had no stability in POLS 1010 for the last several years. This fall I have three new faculty who have been hired, two of whom will be teaching POLS 1010 every term, joining a tenure-track faculty member last fall in this endeavor. I would hate to put this task on

them before they have taught the class, met the students, or adjusted to their new academic lives.” (E-mail to Lane Wilkinson, 7/25/16)

- ii. Rausch suggests this could lead to a SACS issue. They are effectively teaching a new course if they are not following the approved syllabi and the courses are not meeting the agreed-upon General Education curriculum.
 - iii. **Motion to postpone discussion and give POLS time to submit a full proposal**
 - iv. **Move approval (Ingraham/Sutton)**
 - v. **Approved 7-0-0.**
- b. THSP 1150
- i. Performing Arts wants to decertify THSP 1150.
 - ii. Steve Ray explains:

From: Ray, Steve
Sent: Friday, August 26, 2016 3:08 PM
To: Wilkinson, Lane; Benkert, Stuart
Cc: Harris, Lee; Matthews, Matt
Subject: Re: Performing Arts courses due for General Education Credit this year

Lane,

THSP has not offered THSP 1150 for several semesters now since it is not very efficient when considering the number of students served/instructor. We should take this course off of the course listings. I’m not quite sure how to do that, but I’ll figure it out.

Steve
- iii. **Motion to decertify (Sutton/Lundgrin)**
 - iv. **Approved, 7-0-0**
- c. ENGL 1130
- i. Seems to be a lack of student work.
 - ii. Inconsistent outcomes on syllabi
 - iii. Atkinson seems to skip TVB entirely
 - iv. Given the extreme differences between syllabi and the need for consistency, the committee asks to hold off on reviewing ENGL 1130 until we can meet with the relevant ENGL faculty.
 - 1. **Lane will ask Chris Stuart and instructors to attend in a future meeting**
- d. CRMJ 2950
- i. Question for clarification on the qualitative/quantitative outcome
 - ii. Question about social science methodologies covered.
 - iii. **Move recertify (Lundgrin/Robison)**
 - iv. **Approved 7-0-0**
- e. SOC 1510
- i. Praise for consistency
 - ii. **Move to recertify (Tracy/Ingraham)**
 - iii. **Approved 7-0-0**
- f. MATH 3100
- i. Primary and Secondary readers unavailable
 - ii. Hold vote
- g. MATH 1730

- i. Lucas van der Merwe visits to explain that MATH 1730 should be admitted as a General Education: Mathematics course given that it is an advanced version of the MATH 1710 Pre-Calculus course and is designed for Engineers.
- ii. MATH will submit for certification and we will vote in the near future

General Education Committee, 11/11/16

2:00 pm, LIBR 209

Agenda

1. Petitions
2. Courses to review
 - a. ART 1110 for Visual and Performing Arts
 - b. ASTR 1010 for Natural Science non-lab
 - c. ASTR 1010 & 1010L for Natural Science with Lab
 - d. BIOL 1110 for Natural Science Lab
 - e. ENGL 1330 for Literature
 - f. HHP 4070 for Behavioral and Social Science
 - g. MUS 3130 for VPA
 - h. PSY 2410 for BSS
 - i. REL 2220 for Lit & TVB
 - j. SOC 1250 for BSS

Attending

Members: Lane Wilkinson, Will Sutton, Lanie Lundgrin, Christina Vogel, Joseph Jordan, Lynn Purkey

Absent: Aniekan Ebiefung, Annie Tracy, Kira Robison, Han Park, Lauren Ingraham

Ex officio: David Rausch, Sandy Zitkus, Dawn Ford, Melanie Dixon

Discussion

1. Petitions
 - a. Gabriella Piccolo (ENGL 389R from Emory for Literature)
 - i. **Motion to Deny Petition (Will Sutton, second by Lynn Purkey)**
 - ii. This course studied Harry Potter as literature. While Harry Potter studies are a legitimate field of inquiry, the course failed to meet several General Education learning outcomes including but not limited to “Read and comprehend college-level literature” and Articulate differences in genre...”
 - iii. **Petition Denied, 6 yea, 0 nay, 0 abstain**
 - b. Gabriella Piccolo (HIST 2020 “US History Since 1865) from Emory for Non-Western)
 - i. **Motion to Deny Petition (Lundgrin, Sutton)**
 - ii. A U.S. History course by definition cannot qualify for Non-Western credit
 - iii. **Petition Denied, 6-0-0**
 - c. Gabriella Piccolo (HIST 231A “Foundations of American Society” from Emory for Non-Western)

- i. **Motion to Deny Petition (Lundgrin, Purkey)**
 - ii. A U.S. History course by definition cannot qualify for Non-Western credit
 - iii. **Petition Denied, 6-0-0**
- d. Lauren Simpson (SOC 2133 "Inequality in American Society" from Tulsa for Social Science)
 - i. **Motion to Approve Petition (Sutton, Lundgrin)**
 - ii. This course is equivalent to our SOC 2320 which will be seeking General Education credit this year.
 - iii. **Petition Approved, 6-0-0**
- e. Lauren Sullivan (HIS 112 "Western Civilization II" from Reinhardt for Non-Western Culture)
 - i. **Motion to Deny Petition (Sutton, Purkey)**
 - ii. A Western civilization course by definition cannot qualify for Non-Western credit
 - iii. **Petition Denied, 6-0-0**
- f. Derek Mahaffey (HIS 113 "Western Civilization I" from East Central CC for Non-Western Culture)
 - i. **Motion to Deny Petition (Sutton, Vogel)**
 - ii. A Western civilization course by definition cannot qualify for Non-Western credit
 - iii. **Petition Denied, 6-0-0**
- g. Nathaniel Dixon (HIST 1113 "Western Civilization I" from East Mississippi CC for Non-Western Culture)
 - i. **Motion to Deny Petition (Lundgrin, Purkey)**
 - ii. A Western civilization course by definition cannot qualify for Non-Western credit
 - iii. **Petition Denied, 6-0-0**
- h. Sky Spraker (ENG 1194 "Intro to Film" from Transylvania for Literature)
 - i. **Motion to Approve Petition (Sutton, Jordan)**
 - ii. The course treats film as a subject of literary analysis and meets all outcomes
 - iii. **Petition Approved, 5-0-1**

2. Courses to Review

- a. HHP 4070
 - i. **Move to Decertify under Behavioral & Social Sciences (Wilkinson, Sutton)**
 - ii. On November 11, Marisa Colston from HHP emailed Lane Wilkinson to say "...HHP 4070 is no longer being offered, therefore we will not be moving forward on recertification."
 - iii. **Decertified, 6-0-0**
- b. SOC 1250
 - i. **Move to Decertify under Behavioral and Social Sciences (Sutton, Lundgrin)**
 - ii. This course has not been offered in several years.
 - iii. On October 14, Pamela Ashmore informed Lane Wilkinson that the department would not seek recertification.
 - iv. **Decertified, 6-0-0**
- c. ART 1110
 - i. **Move to Recertify under Visual and Performing Arts (Vogel, Sutton)**
 - ii. Committee members expressed vague concerns about the course but felt it was overall acceptable.
 - iii. **Recertified, 6-0-0**
- d. ASTR 1010
 - i. **Move to Extend Recertification 2 years (Sutton/Jordan)**

- ii. Excellent paperwork, but the examples provided do not actually support what they purport to support. From the samples of student work and assignments presented, we cannot verify that students are formulating hypotheses, designing experiments, and expressing conclusions.
- iii. **Recertified 2 years, 6-0-0**
- e. ASTR 1010 & 1010L 1510
 - i. **Review postponed until student work is provided.**
- f. ENGL 1330
 - i. **Review postponed until student work can be provided for all sections**
- g. MUS 3130
 - i. **Move to extend certification one year under Visual and Performing Arts (Sutton, Purkey)**
 - ii. Syllabus needs to include outcomes. Needs to provide sample student work. Given that the only materials available come from this semester, it is best to extend certification for one year to give Music time to gather more materials.
 - iii. Additional concerns were raised about the rigor of the course and whether it meets the requirements for a 3000-level course.
 - iv. **Recertified 1 year, 6-0-0**
- h. REL 2220
 - i. **Review postponed until writing exercises and samples of student work are provided**

General Education Committee, 11/29/16

1:00 pm, LIBR 209

Agenda

1. Courses to review
 - a. WSTU 2000 for Behavioral
 - b. REL 2360 for TVB
 - c. PSY 2410 for Behavioral
 - d. ENGL 1330 for Literature
 - e. CRMJ 1100 for Behavioral
 - f. ASTR 1020 & 1020L for Natural Science Lab
 - g. ENGL 1130 for Lit and TVB

Attending

Members: Lane Wilkinson, Will Sutton, Lauren Ingraham, Christina Vogel, Joseph Jordan, Lynn Purkey, Han Park, Kira Robison, Lanie Lundgrin (did not vote)

Absent: Aniekan Ebiefung, Annie Tracy

Ex officio: David Rausch, Eva Lewis, Dawn Ford, Melanie Dixon

Discussion

1. WSTU 2000 for BSS
 - a. Concern was expressed about the readings varying drastically between sections. Concern about consistency
 - b. Student work was not submitted
 - i. **Review of WSTU 2000 tabled pending more information from the department**
 - ii. **TO DO: Lane will contact Marcia Noe and Matt Matthews**
2. REL 2360 for TVB
 - a. Form was sparse, not explicit enough for us to review
 - b. Would like to see a question bank for the quizzes assigned in class
 - c. Need to see sample exams
 - d. Need clarification that the religions covered are not strictly Christian. The course catalog discusses “religions in America” which is a broader category than simply Christian denominations
 - e. Need to add General Education Outcomes to syllabus
 - i. **Review of REL 2360 tabled pending more information from the department**
 - ii. **TO DO: Lane will contact Jonathan Yeager and Josh Davies**
3. PSY 2410 for BSS
 - a. Need to add General Education outcomes to syllabus
 - b. Needs to submit sample exams and final project
 - c. Needs to submit a rubric for the group discussion, otherwise it looks like mere attendance. How are they evaluating in-class activities?
 - i. **Review of PSY 2410 tabled pending more information from the department**
 - ii. **TO DO: Lane will contact Libby Byers and Brian O’Leary**
4. ENGL 1330 for Lit
 - a. Primary reader not present
 - i. **Review of ENGL 1330 tabled**
5. CRMJ 1100 for BSS
 - a. Course seems okay, but primary reader did not consult with secondary reader and would like the opportunity to do so.
 - i. **Review of CRMJ 1100 tabled**
6. ASTR 1020 & 1020L
 - i. **Review of ASTR 1020 2000 tabled**
7. ENGL 1130 for TVB and Lit
 - i. **Review of ENGL 1130 tabled**
8. Discussion
 - a. In order to review courses as efficiently as possible, the committee will adopt the following model:
 - i. **All readers will verify that their courses have adequate documentation**
 - ii. **The chair will contact departments that still need to submit documentation**
 - iii. **The chair will upload supplemental documents to the UTC Learn site**
 - iv. **All courses with supplemental documentation available as of Wednesday, Dec 7 will be subject to review on Dec. 14 or 15 (TBD)**
 - v. **The hope is that between Dec 7 and Dec 14 the committee can come to a consensus on each course via online discussion (preferably email?) and vote in several via consent agenda**
 - b. The chair noted that the General Education Committee has been tapped to be the core of a campus-wide steering committee for General Education. Communication from the Provost is attached. Details will be forthcoming.

From: Faires, Jennifer

Sent: Tuesday, November 01, 2016 11:58 AM

To: Buffington, Ron <Ron-Buffington@utc.edu>; Tucker, John C <John-Tucker@utc.edu>; Elwell, Jeff <Jeffery-Elwell@utc.edu>; Santiago, Manuel <Manuel-Santiago@utc.edu>; Zibluk, John <john-b-zibluk@utc.edu>; Stuart, Christopher J <chris-stuart@utc.edu>; Swanson, John C. <John-Swanson@utc.edu>; Van Der Merwe, Lucas C <Lucas-VanderMerwe@utc.edu>; Davies, Joshua <Joshua-Davies@utc.edu>; Harris, Lee <Lee-Harris@utc.edu>; Ray, Steve <Steve-Ray@utc.edu>; Deardorff, Michelle <Michelle-Deardorff@utc.edu>; O'leary, Brian <Brian-O'leary@utc.edu>; Ashmore, Pamela <Pamela-Ashmore@utc.edu>; Hollingsworth, Danny <Dan-Hollingsworth@utc.edu>; Jones, Michael A <Michael-Jones@utc.edu>; Brockman, Chris <Chris-Brockman@utc.edu>; Wheatley, Kathleen <Kathleen-Wheatley@utc.edu>; Brockman, Beverly <Beverly-Brockman@utc.edu>; Owino, Joseph <Joseph-Owino@utc.edu>; Kizza, Joseph M <Joseph-Kizza@utc.edu>; Eltom, Ahmed H <Ahmed-Eltom@utc.edu>; Alp, Neslihan <Neslihan-Alp@utc.edu>; McDonald, Gary <Gary-McDonald@utc.edu>; Colston, Marisa <Marisa-Colston@utc.edu>; Smith, Chris <chris-smith@utc.edu>; Ingram, Debbie <Debbie-Ingram@utc.edu>; McDonald, Susan <Susan-McDonald@utc.edu>; Murley, Renee <renee-murley@utc.edu>; Wilkinson, Lane <Lane-Wilkinson@utc.edu>; Ebiefung, Aniekan <Aniekan-Ebiefung@utc.edu>; Ingraham, Lauren <Lauren-Ingraham@utc.edu>; Jordan, Joseph <joseph-p-jordan@utc.edu>; Lundgrin, Lanie <lanie-lundgrin@utc.edu>; Park, Han J. <hanjung-park@utc.edu>; Purkey, Lynn <Lynn-Purkey@utc.edu>; Robison, Kira <kira-robison@utc.edu>; Sutton, William <Will-Sutton@utc.edu>; Tracy, Annie Tracy Samuel <annie-tracysamuel@utc.edu>; Vogel, Christina <Christina-Vogel@utc.edu>; Ford, Dawn <Dawn-Ford@utc.edu>; Benkert, Stuart <Stuart-Benkert@utc.edu>

Cc: Ainsworth, Avery <jerald-ainsworth@utc.edu>; Rausch, David <David-Rausch@utc.edu>; Dooley, Robert <robert-dooley@utc.edu>; Elwell, Jeff <Jeffery-Elwell@utc.edu>; Frost, Linda <Linda-Frost@utc.edu>; Liedtka, Theresa <Theresa-Liedtka@utc.edu>; Rutledge, Valerie C <Valerie-Rutledge@utc.edu>; Pack, Daniel <daniel-pack@utc.edu>; Romagni, Joanne <joanne-romagni@utc.edu>; Lewis, Eva <Eva-Lewis@utc.edu>; Angle, Steven <Steven-Angle@utc.edu>; McKinney, Teresa <Teresa-McKinney@utc.edu>

Subject: General Education discussions

Sent on behalf of Provost Ainsworth:

Greetings,

Beginning now and through Spring 2017, we will begin broad and detailed discussions revolving around our General Education curriculum. These discussions are intended for gathering input and feedback from faculty and students regarding the role, breadth, and concerns/issues of our Gen Ed curriculum and how we might improve upon our current Gen Ed offerings. During the discussions, it is expected that we will learn things that should be applied to General Education. Applying the lessons learned and other parameters garnered from the discussions will occur in Fall 2017. In Spring 2018, the updated GE curriculum will be shared broadly for comment. The anticipated date of implementing any changes to Gen Ed would be in Fall 2018. In order to meet our timeline as part of our SACSCOC 10 year reaffirmation process, it is important that we maintain a schedule with milestones.

I look forward to rich and vigorous discussions on our General Education curriculum.

Jerald

A. Jerald Ainsworth, Ph.D.

Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
102 Founders Hall, Dept. 5555

General Education Review and Discussion

Principles, Guidelines, and Processes

As we complete our fifth year interim SACSCOC report (due December 2016) and move into the analysis and writing stage for our SACSCOC reaffirmation (a 10-year cycle due in 2021) we will be thinking and evaluating at a variety of levels. One area we will need to review is our General Education curriculum, because this is a specific focus of SACSCOC (Principles 2.7.3, 3.3.1, and 3.5.1 – SACSCOC Principles of Accreditation). A review of this nature is a sizable undertaking. The provost and the deans want to ensure that we include department heads and the faculty to provide broad thinking as we discuss how we might improve our General Education curriculum. There are no preconceived ideas of what, if any, changes might be developed and implemented. In our efforts, we should confirm our existing General Education offerings or provide processes by which we thoughtfully reconfigure the core of General Education curriculum. This could mean that the required number of General Education hours is modified based on our discussions. Having these discussions, and making data-informed decisions, will confirm for our campus and SACSCOC that we have been thoughtful and deliberate in addressing the aspect of student learning and general education.

Principles

General Education is the foundation to a broad liberal arts curriculum that establishes the basis for work in any major. Ensuring a robust General Education curriculum, with opportunities for exploration by students, is important and must be balanced, focused, streamlined, accessible, and easy to navigate. Moving forward, our contributions to the General Education conversations should not be based on any particular vested interest. The need for students to have a strong general educational foundation should be paramount. Examples such as the following should then be taken into consideration:

- multiple voices and a diversity of viewpoints;
- individual faculty members or department's SCH production should not be criteria for including a course(s) as part of the General Education curriculum; and
- student experiences, information, and pathways to student success.

Processes

Data will be provided by OPEIR as a way to inform conversations. The Provost will share data in departmental meetings and other meetings as appropriate as a means of disseminating information, generating discussion, and gathering feedback. In addition, our General Education Committee will be involved in these conversations. In general, although not limited to the following, a few of the issues that should be addressed for our General Education offerings include:

- courses that are specific to a degree program that cannot be counted toward other majors;
- courses that narrowly focus on those skills, techniques, and procedures specific to a particular occupation or profession; and
- courses that require a prerequisite for a General Education course, but the required prerequisite course is not a General Education course.

General Education Committee, 12/14/16

11:00 am, LIBR 209

Agenda

1. Courses to review
 - a. WSTU 2000 for Behavioral

- b. PSY 2410 for Behavioral
- c. REL 2360 for TVB
- d. REL 2220 for Lit and TVB
- e. ENGL 1330 for Literature
- f. ENGL 1130 for Lit and TVB
- g. CRMJ 1100 for Behavioral
- h. ASTR 1010 & 1010L for Natural Science Lab
- i. ASTR 1020 & 1020L for Natural Science Lab
- j. BIOL 1110 for Natural Science Lab
- k. GEOL 1160 for Non Lab
- l. MATH 3100 for Statistics
- m. MATH 4140 for Statistics
- n. PSY 1010 for BSS
- o. SOC 2500 for Statistics
- p. THSP 2800 for Visual and Performing Arts

2. Petitions

Attending

Members: Lane Wilkinson, Will Sutton, Lauren Ingraham, Christina Vogel, Lynn Purkey, Han Park, Kira Robison, Aniekan Ebiefung, Annie Tracy, Lauren Ingraham

Absent: Joseph Jordan

Ex officio: Eva Lewis, Dawn Ford, Sandy Zitkus

Courses to Review

1. WSTU 2000 for BSS
 - a. Sent back 11-29 for additional documentation.
 - b. **Motion to approve (Sutton/Lundgrin) passes 9-0-0**
2. PSY 2410 for BSS
 - a. Sent back 11-29 for additional documentation.
 - b. **Motion to approve (Sutton/Lundgrin) passes 9-0-0**
3. REL 2360 for TVB
 - a. Sent back 11-29-16 for additional documentation.
 - b. Course needs improved assessment and a title that makes it clear it is primarily about the history of Christianity in the US.
 - c. **Motion to extend certification one year to allow Religion to rework assessment (Sutton/Ebiefung) passes 9-0-0**
4. REL 2220 for TVB & Literature
 - a. Barry Matlock, who teaches the course, is unable to provide sample student work due to a recent office move. The committee felt that the syllabus and assignments looked okay and is willing to give a one-year extension in order to give the department time to gather sample student work.
 - b. **Motion to extend certification one year to allow Religion to gather student work (Sutton/Robison) passes 9-0-0**

5. ENGL 1130 for Literature and TVB
 - a. This course clearly meets all of the outcomes for the Literature category. However, some sections fail to meet TVB. Lane has discussed the matter with Drs. Chris Stuart and Matt Guy who agree that the courses need to refocus on TVB.
 - b. **Motion to extend certification one year in TVB to allow department to restructure the TVB category (Sutton/Ebiefung) passes 9-0-0**
 - c. **Motion to recertify in Literature (Sutton/Ebiefung) passes 9-0-0**
6. ENGL 1330 for Literature
 - a. Needs to collect assignments in the future, but otherwise a great course.
 - b. **Motion to recertify in Literature (Sutton/Purkey) passes 10-0-0**
7. ASTR 1010 & 1010L for Natural Science-Lab
 - a. There was a discrepancy between lab work submitted and lab work referenced on the recertification form. Sutton met with Dr. Seth Waldecker to sort things out and the course seems acceptable.
 - b. Mostly multiple choice, however there are opportunities for group work and discussion.
 - c. **Motion to recertify in Natural Science-Lab (Sutton/Ebiefung) passes 10-0-0**
8. ASTR 1020 & 1020L for Natural Science-Lab
 - a. No problems. All documentation available, consistent, and convincing.
 - b. **Motion to recertify in Natural Science-Lab (Sutton/Ebiefung) passes 10-0-0**
9. BIOL 1110 for Natural Science Lab
 - a. A model application. Consistent syllabi, clearly assessed learning outcomes, and no missing materials
 - b. **Motion to recertify in Natural Science-Lab (Park/Robison) passes 10-0-0**
10. CRMJ 1100 for BSS
 - a. A model application. Consistent syllabi, clearly assessed learning outcomes, and no missing materials
 - b. **Motion to recertify in Behavioral and Social Sciences (Sutton/Tracy) passes 10-0-0**
11. GEOL 1160
 - a. Tabled until January
12. MATH 3100 for Statistics
 - a. This is an example of a course that should have been weeded out during the General Education redesign. At the 3000-level and requiring Calc 2 as a pre-req. This is a course for Math and Computer Science majors, not General Education.
 - b. **Motion to extend certification one year to allow the Mathematics department time to decide where this course fits in the curriculum and what alternative options are available to the majors who need this general education credit (Ebiefung/Sutton) passes 10-0-0**
13. MATH 4140 for Statistics
 - a. This is another example of a course that should have been weeded out during the General Education redesign. At the 4000-level and requiring Calc 2 as a pre-req. This is a course for Math and Computer Science majors, not General Education.
 - b. **Motion to extend certification one year to allow the Mathematics department time to decide where this course fits in the curriculum and what alternative options are available to the majors who need this general education credit (Ebiefung/Sutton) passes 10-0-0**
14. PSY 1010

- a. This course does not appear to address critical thinking in a meaningful way. Granted, these are large sections of up to 200 students, but there are methods for fostering creative and critical engagement even in a large section.
- b. The department needs an extension in order to rework assessment to reflect critical thinking.
- c. **Motion to extend certification one year to allow the Psychology department time to rework assessment (Sutton/Lundgrin) passes 10-0-0**

15. SOC 2500 for Statistics

- a. Sent back last year to be reworked. A new assignment stressing critical analysis of statistical methods has been added.
- b. **Motion to recertify in Statistics (Sutton/Ebiefung) passes 10-0-0**

16. THSP 2800 for Fine Arts

- a. Tabled until January

Petitions

- 1. HIST 112 from Bryan College for Non-Western
 - a. This is a Western History course.
 - b. **Motion to deny petition (Purkey/Sutton) passes 10-0-0**
- 2. EN 266 from Covenant for Visual and Performing Arts
 - a. This course is virtually identical to our THSP 2800 which is certified in this category
 - b. **Motion to accept petition (Robison/Tracy) passes 10-0-0**
- 3. HIST 110 from Harding University for TVB
 - a. This is a Western Civilization class that could pass for Historical Understanding but not TVB
 - b. **Motion to deny petition (Tracy/Purkey) passes 10-0-0**
- 4. HIST 1022 from the University of Glasgow for TVB
 - a. Though ostensibly a course on Scottish culture and identity, the learning outcomes and assignments closely mirror our TVB category. It may be a relatively narrow area of thought, but the outcomes are clearly met.
 - b. **Motion to accept petition (Ebiefung/Tracy) passes 10-0-0**

To Do

- 1. Lane will get a meeting scheduled first week of January
- 2. Lane will contact all department heads about today's votes.
- 3. Lane will send a list of new courses to review in January

General Education Committee, 1/10/17

10:00 am, LIBR 209

Agenda

1. Moratorium on recertifications and certifications for 2017-2018
2. Recertifications
 - a. ENGL 1310 for Literature
 - b. ENGL 2210 for Literature
 - c. GEOL 1160 for Natural Science, non-Lab
 - d. PHYS 1030 & 1030L for Natural Science, Lab
 - e. POLS 1010 for Behavioral and Social Sciences
 - f. THSP 2800 for Visual and Performing Arts
3. New courses to review
 - a. PHIL 1200 for TVB and Non-Western
 - b. PHIL 2350 for TVB
 - c. THSP 3210 for Historical Understanding
 - d. THSP 3100 for Thoughts Values and beliefs
 - e. ETR 1010 for Behavioral and social sciences
 - f. GEOG 1010 for Natural Sciences, non-lab
 - g. HHP 1000 for Behavioral and social sciences

Attending

Members: Lanie Lundgrin, Kira Robison, Han Park, Lane Wilkinson, Will Sutton, Joseph Jordan, Lynn Purkey,

Absent: Aniekan Ebiefung, Annie Tracy, Christina Vogel

Ex officio: Sandy Zitkus, Eva Lewis, Dawn Ford, Melanie Dixon

Discussion

1. Motion for a moratorium
 - a. Lane sent this out the previous week. No suggestions; all agreed it was acceptable to send along to Senate.
 - b. Motion included at end of minutes**
2. ENGL 2210 for Literature
 - a. Has not been offered in some time and the department would like to keep on the books but does not need to be recertified.
 - b. Motion to Decertify (Sutton/Lundgrin) passes 7-0-0**
3. POLS 1010 for Behavioral and Social Sciences
 - a. Michelle Deardorff has indicated that the course has undergone a redesign and will need to be reevaluated after they have time to gather materials.
 - b. This is a core General Education course
 - c. Vote postponed until middle to late Spring semester
 - d. TO DO: Lane will contact Deardorff and request completed recertification applications by Spring Break**
4. ENGL 1310 for Literature
 - a. Needs student work
 - b. Motion to approve pending submission of student work (Sutton/Jordan) passes 7-0-0**
5. GEOL 1160 for Natural Science
 - a. Department sent Dr. Park additional documentation and answered all questions satisfactorily.
 - b. Motion to approve (Park/Lundgrin) passes 7-0-0**
6. PHYS 1030 & 1030L for Natural Science, Lab

- a. **Motion to approve pending submission of sample student work (Sutton/Robison) passes 7-0-0**
- 7. THSP 2800 for Visual and Performing Arts
 - a. This course needs a lot of attention. We need a syllabus, assignments, student work, and a better explanation as to how the course fits General Education.
 - b. **Motion to extend one year to give the department time to rework the course (Robison/Sutton) passes 7-0-0**
- 8. PHIL 1200 for Non Western and TVB
 - a. **Motion to approve in both categories (Lundgron/Purkey) passes 6-0-1**
- 9. PHIL 2350 for TVB
 - a. **Motion to approve (Purkey/Jordan) passes 7-0-0**
- 10. THSP 3210 for Historical Understanding
 - a. Unable to review. Course lacks syllabus and adequate explanation
- 11. THSP 3100 for TVB
 - a. Unable to review. No syllabus, documentation, or acceptable rationale
- 12. ETR 1010 for Behavioral and Social Sciences
 - a. The categories do not seem to fit the subject material. Questions raised about whether any *general* social sciences material is present in the course. Concern about differential fee.
 - b. **Motion to deny (Purkey/Sutton) passes 7-0-0**
 - c. **TO DO: Lane will work with ETR to improve the course**
- 13. INTs 1110 for Natural Sciences
 - a. **Motion to approve (Sutton/Lundgrin) passes 7-0-0**
- 14. GEOG 1010 for Natural Sciences
 - a. **Motion to approve (Sutton/Jordan) passes 7-0-0**
- 15. HHP 1000 for Behavioral and Social Sciences
 - a. Subject matter does not seem to address behavioral and social science theories or concepts.
 - b. **Motion to deny (Sutton/Robison) passes 7-0-0**

General Education Committee, 4/7/17

1:30 pm, LIBR 209

Agenda

- 1. Review outstanding petitions (one in UTC Learn as of March 31, 2017)
- 2. Review POLS 1010