

General Education Council

September 27th, 2018

Minutes

Members Present: Jane Kinney, Tod Leavitt, Ben Westcoatt, Heather Kelley, Deb Robson, Lai Orenduff

Members Absent: Mark Smith, Aubrey Fowler

1. Approval of minutes

2. Core items:

a. CORE identity:

- Why do we want to change the CORE?

Suggestion: develop a survey and ask faculty, department heads, advisors, and student focus groups to determine what the issues concerning the Core are. Include:

1.) Rodney Carr on enrollment.

1.) Rob Friedhoff for FLCs

2.) Mark McNally for the focus group

3.) Bob Gannon: Biology Freshman seminar.

4.) Linda de la Garza: Chemistry Freshman, sophomore, senior and soon to be Junior Seminars.

5.) Doug Farwell: Music freshman seminar.

6.) Get data from Michael Black to see how the FLC's are succeeding in retention

7.) Check with Peer institutions who have Freshman Seminars to see their data on retention rates.

- Keep the CORE

1.) Core Parameters

- USG

- VSU

- 2.) One option is to work within existing format

a.) AREA B is problematic and could be a place to look for a change

- Present a new course/change as a pilot, so that it could be tested before it requiring a CORE change.

- Guest: Gardner Rogers: talked about his pilot class in AREA B. Initiative did not succeed in the way it was designed, but Gardner learned a lot from the process for next project. Gardner is in favor of Freshman seminars.

b.) AREA B is a place to put a Freshman Seminar (NOT an orientation class): This has issues because most colleges give academic credit (2 hrs.) for this. This type of class will not pass USG regulations for academic credit for AREA B. The other alternative would be to make it mandatory for all new incoming students and not as part of the CORE, but as additional credits needed to graduate.

b. Looking at peer institutions