

MINUTES  
General Education Council Meeting  
Tuesday, February 22, 2011  
Nevins 1060C

1. Current Status of VSU General Education Assessment Project: GEC members will contact departments about current status of data reporting and collection:  
**James LaPlant:** Feedback reports on Fall 2010 assessments: POLS 1101, ASTR 1010K/1020K, MATH 1101  
Confirm data collection in Spring 2011: BIOL 1010/1020L 1030/1040L, ENGL 1102, MATH 1111, ENGL 2110-2130, GEOL 1121K, HIST 2112.  
Request general education assessment department liaison: African American Studies, Chemistry, History, Honors, Women and Gender Studies  
**John Gaston:** Feedback reports on Fall 2010 assessments: THEA 1100  
Confirm data collection in Spring 2011: COMM 1100  
Request general education assessment department liaison: Art, Communication Arts, Music  
**Brian Gerber:** Feedback reports on Spring 2010 assessments: PSYC 2500  
Confirm data collection in Spring 2011: PSYC 2500  
**Kent Moore:** Confirm data collection in Spring 2011: ECON 1500
2. Preparation for Workshops for each core area: GEC members discussed workshops for Spring 2011 in preparation for initiating embedded assessments for the learning outcomes and learning goals. Byron Brown shared the revised worksheet and guidelines and the GEC decided on the following process:
  - A. Workshops will be “train the trainer” sessions for each area.
  - B. Responding to an email from Dr. Gunter, departments from each area will be asked to send the following people to the workshop: the department head or director; the departmental liaison; and a faculty member (possibly one who has already been involved in the assessment process for a departmental course).
  - C. Workshops will be scheduled during the weeks of March 21-25 (PERS Advisory Board is meeting on Friday, March 25, at 2 p.m.) and March 28-April 1
  - D. Departments will be given a preliminary schedule of due dates for the new assessment cycle.
3. The GEC looked at the tentative date for the Fall 2011 Core Curriculum Meeting: Tuesday, August 9, 1:30 pm.
4. The GEC reviewed a 2 page overview of the core curriculum being prepared for this summer’s orientation sessions. Members offered a few suggestions: (a) Complete learning outcomes must be listed with each area; (b) the three learning goals must also be incorporated (perhaps in the listings for the courses that will fulfill those outcomes); (c) a second sheet may be useful in order to discuss a bit more about why certain areas or courses are useful and important for the major.

## DRAFT EMAIL FOR WORKSHOPS

Colleagues,

As the head or director of a program offering courses in VSU's core curriculum or as the General Education Assessment departmental liaison, you are receiving this email. As you already know, over the past two years, faculty teams from a number of different departments have developed, administered, and evaluated embedded assessments for over 20 different courses in VSU's core curriculum using the eight general education outcomes. Beginning in Fall 2011, VSU will be using new general education outcomes for each core area as well as three new learning goals (Global, US, and Critical Thinking).

In a meeting with departmental representatives in January 2011, VSU's General Education Council (GEC) developed the following goals for ongoing general education assessment:

- (1) Current assessments must be reevaluated and possibly redesigned in light of the new learning outcomes;
- (2) New assessments must be developed for those courses designated for US, Global, and Critical Thinking Outcomes;
- (3) The assessments must be expanded, both to include more sections of each course as well as to add new courses;
- (4) A workable rotation must be established so departments will know when they are scheduled to conduct assessments;
- (5) A standardized reporting mechanism must be developed, including dates for reporting the assessment to be used, the dates to be administered, and the dates by which data must be reported;
- (6) A routine evaluation process must be implemented, both in the home department for each course (perhaps by a departmental assessment committee) and for each core area (perhaps by the creation of Core Area Subcommittees).

With these goals in mind, the GEC will be setting up workshops for each core area (A, B, C, D, and E) after spring break. At these workshops, GEC members will work with three members representing each class in the core (the department head, the departmental liaison, and one other faculty member, possibly someone who has already worked on an earlier departmental assessment). These smaller workshops will enable GEC members to continue to refine this process as well as allow department heads and departmental liaisons consider how best to implement the general education assessment process in their programs.

Within the next few days, you will be receiving an invitation to participate in a noodle poll so that workshops can be scheduled.

Your leadership as we continue to build on this process will be absolutely crucial to its success.

## WORKSHOP INVITATIONS

### **Area A: English and Mathematics (Learning Goal 3: Critical Thinking)**

Mark Smith, Byron Brown, Ashok Kumar, Pat Bezona

### **Area B: PERS**

Already scheduled: PERS Advisory Board on March 25

### **Area C: English (Learning Goal 2: Global Perspectives), Art, Communication Arts, Dance, Music, Mass Media, Theater, Philosophy, Religious Studies, Women and Gender Studies, Modern and Classical Languages**

Mark Smith, Byron Brown, Blake Pearce, (no ART liaison), Carl Cates (no COMM liaison), Jim Shrader (no MUSC liaison), Fred Downing, Lavonna Lovern, Traci Woodward-Myers, Viki Soady, Randy Gladwin

### **Area D: Astronomy, Physics, and Geosciences (Engineering); Biology; Chemistry; and Mathematics**

Ed Chatelain, (no PAG liaison), Bob Gannon, Teresa Doscher, Jim Baxter, (no CHEM liaison), Ashok Kumar, Pat Bezona

### **Area E: Political Science, History (Learning Goal 1: US Perspectives), African American Studies, Women and Gender Studies, Anthropology, Economics, Geography, Psychology, and Sociology**

Paul Riggs, (no HIST liaison), Jim Peterson, Jason Kassel, Shirley Hardin, Tracey Woodward-Myers, Darrell Ross, Carl Hand, Attila Cseh, Cindy Tori, Ed Chatelain, (no GEOG liaison), Bob Bauer, Deb Briehl

### POSSIBLE DATES:

Tuesday, March 22, 2-3 p.m. or 3-4 p.m.

Thursday, March 24, 2-3 p.m.

Monday, March 28- Thursday, March 31 2-3, 3-4, 4-5 p.m.

## GENERAL EDUCATION ASSESSMENT PHASE TWO

### TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

#### FALL

MATH 1101

ENGL 1101

POLS 1101

HIST 2111

ART 1100

MUSC 1100

SPAN 1002

RELS 2020

PHIL 2010

THEA 1100

ASTR 1010K/1020K

CHEM 1211/1212L

#### SPRING

MATH 1111

ENGL 1102

ENGL 2110-2130

HIST 2112

BIOL 1010/1020L

BIOL 1030/1040L

COMM 1100

PSYC 2500

ECON 1500

PERS 2730

#### FALL COURSES:

Worksheets due last class day spring semester before data collection

Feedback reports due first class day of spring semester after data collection

#### SPRING COURSES:

Worksheets due first day of fall semester before data collection

Feedback reports due first day of Summer II after data collection