

MINUTES
General Education Council
November 23, 2010
Nevins Hall 1060C

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Byron Brown, John Gaston, Sheri Gravett, Jane Kinney, James LaPlant, Kent Moore

1. Feedback from USG General Education Council on VSU's Learning Outcomes and Overlays: John Gaston provided this feedback; while the USG Council on General Education did approve all of VSU's outcomes and overlays, members were concerned whether all VSU Area B courses would meet the designated outcome. James LaPlant reported that the newly formed PERS Advisory Board is going to be examining all PERS syllabi from Fall 2010 and Spring 2011 to follow up on that concern.
2. Proposed new catalogue copy for VSU core curriculum: Sheri Gravett presented proposed new catalogue copy for the 2011-2012 undergraduate catalogue. The GEC approved with a few minor revisions. The revised copy highlights the new learning outcomes and also provides some information on eCore, which has not been available in the catalogue up to this point. The proposed copy will be presented at the next Deans' Council meeting and then will be forwarded to the Academic Committee.
3. GEC schedule for Spring 2010: Council members discussed the implementation of the new learning outcomes and overlays, discussing the best process to promote this change and continue general education assessment. Several items emerged from the discussion:
 - a. At the beginning of spring semester, the GEC should plan to meet with Department Heads whose departments have courses in the core to gather their feedback for the fuller implementation of General Education assessment. With their help, the GEC will work to develop a workable rotation of core assessment and reporting.
 - b. With that aim in mind, the GEC needs to continue to work with Strategic Research and Analysis to develop a portal in which outcomes, assessments, results, and future actions can be reported.
 - c. The GEC again discussed the issue of appointing assessment committees for each core area. These committees could have direct oversight of each core area and assure that the rotation is proceeding on schedule and that data is being reported. It may be desirable to offer chairs for each committee a course reassignment in order to assure that these processes are continuing on schedule.
 - d. The GEC also discussed additional ways to highlight successful use of assessment in the core—gathering and recognizing “success” stories—programs that have used assessments to make positive changes in their courses/curriculum. The GEC could also perhaps develop an award to present at the Core Curriculum meeting in the fall: the Innovator Award. Another possibility might be to work with faculty or graduate students with research interests in assessment.

CURRENT ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE

Data Collection for Fall 2011

Phase Two: ART 1100, MUSC 1100, POLS 1101, SPAN 1002, THEA 1100, PHIL 2010, RELS 2020

Phase Four: ASTR 1010K/1020K, CHEM 1211L/1212L, MATH 1101

Data Collection for Spring 2012

Phase One: BIOL 1010, 1030, COMM 1100, ENGL 1102, PSYC 2500, MATH 1111

Phase Three: ECON 1500, ENGL 2110-2130, HIST 2112, GEOL 1121K, PERS 2730

Additional Assessments Needed:

LEARNING GOAL 1: US PERSPECTIVES

Students will demonstrate an understanding of the United States and its cultural, economic, political, and social development.

Courses to Meet US Goal: *HIST 2111, HIST 2111H, HIST 2112, or HIST 2112H (Required in Area E)*

LEARNING GOAL 2: GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES

Students will demonstrate an understanding of the cultural, religious, or social dimensions of societies around the world.

Courses to Meet GL Goal: *ENGL 2110, ENGL 2110H, ENGL 2120, ENGL 2120H, ENGL 2130, or ENGL 2130H (Required in Area C)*

LEARNING GOAL 3: CRITICAL THINKING

Students will identify, evaluate, and apply appropriate models, concepts, or principles to issues, and they will produce viable solutions or make relevant inferences.

Courses to Meet CT Goal: *ENGL 1101, ENGL 1101H, ENGL 1102, or ENGL 1102H and MATH 1101, MATH 1111, MATH 1113, MATH 1113H, MATH 2261, MATH 2261H, MATH 2262 (Required in Area A)*