GERC Minutes – January 26, 2021

Minutes
General Education Requirements Committee
Tuesday, 26 January 2021
Zoom-- https://isu.zoom.us/j/84074929871?pwd=eU5odnRJZxEdFyzQXN2UEd3WnhHUT09 (new link)
2:30-4:30 p.m.

GERC’s website: www.isu.edu/gerc/

Ex-officio: Cindy Hill, Ann Hackert, Sarah Mead, Mark Cooper, Abbey Hadlich, Carmen Febles (UCC)
Admin. Asst. Catherine Read
Excused: Paul Cady
Guest: none

1. Announcements - none


3. Program Review & Assessment updates – Ann Hackert
   a. Updates on assessment plans that are still pending
   BIOL 2227/L and Physics are working on their plans, will submit to GERC by March.
   b. Zoom workshop in late February with Physics faculty to develop course assessment plans
      • will form ‘breakout’ rooms for each of the Gen Ed courses.
      • need volunteers from GERC to hang out in the breakout rooms and provide help and support
      • be aware, SBOE is making clarification changes to the learning outcomes for all GEM Objectives; the proposed changes will go to SBOE for their August and October meetings for the first and second readings, with estimated approval in August.
      • have departments review their assessment plans in the fall; any adjustments needed?
   c. Gen Ed perspective on diversity, inclusion, and equity during assessment activities
      • identify constituent groups; how well is each group performing?
      • identify broader categories and issues that could be covered


5. Academic Affairs update – Cindy Hill
   State GEM Gen Ed Committee approved the recommended Objective competency changes as-is, now they go to council of Provosts (CAAP) for their approval, then on to IRSA subcommittee and then SBOE for final approval and implementation.

6. UCC update – Carmen Febles
   UCC Executive Committee has met this month; UCC itself won’t meet until next week. UCC is working with Graduate School on developing a single proposal form for both Grad Council and UCC to use for accelerated Bachelor/Master degree pathways. UCC’s Executive Committee is also working to streamline and formalize the change memo process. Updates to UCC’s proposal form incorporates affected College of Education program changes to eliminate the need for a separate proposal.

7. Unfinished Business:
   a. GERC Subcommittee: Faculty Survey re: gen ed program and assessment – still pending, hope to start working on it again soon.

   b. Process for Selecting ISU’s State Gen Ed Discipline Group Reps
      Jardine assigned members to Zoom “breakout rooms” to discuss proposed ideas in small groups, then everyone rejoined the main meeting for more discussion with the full council. Groups liked the three-
year term with option to serve a second term. Department faculty to nominate, GERC to vote, then results go to Faculty Senate for ratification. Tenure and tenure-track less important than a minimum of 3 years teaching, and experience in teaching gen ed courses. Candidates’ enthusiasm for gen eds and assessment is a plus.

8. New Business:
   a. Assign GERC members to review annual assessment reports spreadsheet and ORC reports
      Identify trends, any difficulties departments are experiencing, whether all outcomes are being systematically assessed for each course, how well are students achieving the outcomes, potential confusion or misunderstanding of the assessment process.

      Findings to document are twofold:
      • what concerns do the departments and ORCs express in the reports; and
      • what concerns do the GERC reviewers have after reviewing the spreadsheet and ORC reports

      1) **Objectives 1, 2, and 7**: Matt and Liz volunteered – due 1st Feb meeting
      2) **Objectives 3 and 5**: Paul and Erika volunteered – due 2nd Feb meeting
      3) **Objective 4**: Spencer and DeWayne volunteered
      4) **Objectives 6 and 8**: Shannon volunteered, and Neil was volunteered in absentia
      5) **Objective 9**: Shu-Yuan and Tayo volunteered

      Taylor will look over the spreadsheet and decide which group he wants to work with.

   b. Discuss 5-Year Reporting and responsibilities of ORC members and chair, and select GERC members to chair ORC committees for Objectives 7 and 8. Members reviewed the responsibilities of the Objective Review Committees on GERC’s website. Shannon gave a brief description of how she managed last year’s Objective 5 Review Committee and the tasks they worked on to compile the findings presented in their report.

      1) **Objective 7 Critical Thinking ORC Chair**: Erika volunteered
      2) **Objective 8 Information Literacy ORC Chair**: Matt volunteered

   c. New Assessment Plans for consideration
      i. **CS1181 Assessment Plan** – split off from INFO 1181. Review this one for next time.

   d. Consider developing a Strategic Plan for GERC; and perhaps revising GERC’s purpose statement on the website, which may require updating the Bylaws and UCC/Faculty Senate approval.

9. Adjourn: 4:30 p.m.

Approved by GERC: February 16, 2021 via email vote
Accepted by UCC: February 18, 2021
Accepted by Faculty Senate: February 22, 2021
Accepted by Academic Affairs: February 25, 2021