

Minutes

General Education Requirements Committee

Tuesday, September 12, 2023

2:30-4:30 p.m.

GERC's website: www.isu.edu/gerc

Attendance: Jim Skidmore, Edward Kammerer, Joanne Tokle, Beverly Ray, Kimberly Miller, Anna Grinath, Elizabeth Quick, Tayo Omotowa, Lexi Jorgenson
Ex-officio: Karen Appleby, Shu-Yuan Lin, Hala Abou Arraj, Sacha Johnson, Ben Bolin (UCC), Catherine Read
Excused: Karen Fullmer
Guests: none

1. Announcements:

Welcome to ASISU Student representative: Lexi Jorgenson. Everyone introduced themselves.

2. Council approved the Minutes for [August 29, 2023](#)

3. Updates and Information:

a. Executive Committee update

A Faculty Senator objected last week to a statement in GERC's March 28, 2023 Minutes and suggested alternative wording.

In approved minutes: "GERC considers all courses proposed as gen eds, and has authority to approve or reject a course in the Gen Ed Program"

Faculty Senate: "GERC considers all courses proposed as gen eds, and recommends approval or rejection of a course in the Gen Ed Program"

As the March 28, 2023 minutes were already accepted by UCC, Faculty Senate, and Academic Affairs, GERC will note the correction here rather than update archived minutes.

b. Academic Affairs update – Karen Appleby

Meeting to finalize the GEM Summit agenda is scheduled for next week. The discipline groups members have been invited to meet with GERC at their next meeting, which will be September 26.

c. UCC update – Ben Bolin

UCC is working on approving some proposals starting this week for some new changes to programs. Once that happens they will pass them on to Faculty Senate and Academic Affairs via the Minutes.

4. Unfinished Business:

a. Nominations and Election for Vice Chair

Duties: Serves on the Executive Committee to set agenda and discuss upcoming and behind-the-scenes GERC business. Presides over meetings in absence of Chair.

Nominations: **Tayo Omotowa** is willing to serve, and was nominated for Vice Chair. She was subsequently **elected**.

b. Select internal and external reviewers and begin the process in early Fall 2023 for the next phase of the [Gen Ed Program Review](#).

Review committee must have at least two members, one of which must be external to the institution, and another must be outside the Gen Ed program. Heidi Estrem suggested asking GEM Committee

members from the other institutions. GERC members were asked whether they had a preference for the reviewer to be from a 4-year versus 2-year institution, or if that would not matter. The former option was preferable, but not critical. Karen Appleby will check with the GEM Committee members from BSU, UI, and LCSC, to see who is available/willing to serve.

For a review internal to ISU, a suggestion was made to look at names from previous Distinguished Teaching Award lists, and come up with a short list of names that we can start with. Preferable to look at faculty who teach undergraduate courses rather than at the graduate level, and someone who is not directly involved with General Education. Consider asking for a third reviewer from Student Affairs.

ACTION ITEM: Before next meeting, please email suggested names for an internal reviewer to Joanne, Tayo, Anna, and Catherine

- c. Guidance/recommendations for a process for selecting ISU's GEM Award nominees, and formally recognizing those excellent Gen Ed instructors here at ISU. Consider creating a nomination/application form, instructions, and create a committee to review the applications and select the nominees.

Karen Appleby explained that each institution selects 6 nominees, one for each GEM Objective and sends those names to OSBE. The GEM Committee chooses the final award recipients from the institutions' nominees; one award recipient for each Objective. One requirement is that the nominee has to be currently teaching Gen Ed courses. There is also a leadership component for how over time they have led the implementation of high impact practices or durable, transferable skills, for example. Nomination packets are pretty intensive, and historically the call for nominations has gone out not long before the due date. ISU can start its process earlier to allow faculty more time to prepare their packets.

ISU would like to recognize its outstanding Gen Ed teachers for all nine Objectives, not just the six GEM Objectives.

ACTION ITEM: Karen Appleby will look at the past calls for nominations to use as a template for creating an internal process. She will write an initial draft to bring to GERC for further work next time.

- d. Objective 1 ORC Report: Jim Skidmore – he will try to get it finished up this week to bring for next time.

5. Assessment Plans – departments are working on their revisions:

- a. [EDMT 2271 Working Review Document](#) for [2022 EDMT 2271 Obj 3 General Education](#) Assessment Plan
GERC has approved the course for Objective 3; still need to consider the Assessment Plan

The PO has been working to address the comments posed by GERC last spring. The access problems have been solved so this should be forthcoming soon for GERC's consideration.

The rest of the agenda items were not ready for consideration yet, so were deferred for subsequent meetings.

6. Adjourn: 3:15 p.m.

Approved by GERC:	September 26, 2023
Accepted by UCC:	September 28, 2023
Accepted by Faculty Senate:	October 9, 2023
Accepted by Academic Affairs:	October 3, 2023