

Minutes

General Education Requirements Committee

Tuesday, September 26, 2023

2:30-4:30 p.m.

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

Attendance: Jim Skidmore, Joanne Tokle, Beverly Ray, Kimberly Miller, Anna Grinath, Tayo Omotowa, Kara Kener
Ex-officio: Shu-Yuan Lin, Hala Abou Arraj, Sacha Johnson, Karen Fullmer, Ben Bolin (UCC), Catherine Read
Excused: Edward Kammerer, Elizabeth Quick; Karen Appleby; Erika Fulton
Guests: Abraham Romney, Jim DiSanza, Pageant Jones, Jessica Winston, Samantha Blatt,

1. Announcements and Introductions:

Welcome ISU's GEM Discipline Group members for pre-Gen Ed Summit discussion. Everyone introduced themselves.

- Abraham Romney (Obj. 1)
- Jim Disanza (Obj. 2)
- Pageant Jones (Obj. 3)
- Jessica Winston (Obj. 4)
- Samantha Blatt (Obj. 5)
- Erika Fulton (Obj. 6)

Also welcome the new ASISU member: **Kara Kener** (*Lexi Jorgenson can't attend GERC after all*)

2. Council approved the Minutes for [September 12, 2023](#)

3. GEM Summit - [joint discussion](#) in preparation for Statewide GEM Summit October 12-13

For the guests, Joanne Tokle gave a brief overview of what GERC has been working on recently. Objectives 3 and 4 are slated for review this coming Spring 2024. Departments will be asked to review their older assessment plans and update them as needed.

1. [Gen Ed Summit Agenda 2023](#) for reference

GERC is particularly interested in the discussion at the GEM summit about durable skills and how it relates to the transferable skills project.

The discipline groups have not met prior to the summit. Math has had a pre-summit meeting with Heidi.

Joanne asked GEM reps to express any concerns they may have about the Summit agenda. One of the previous attendees to last year's Gen Ed Summit reported that the agenda looks like a continuation of what was discussed last year with high impact practices, but that the durable skills focus is a new piece. There was a question about how durable skills are defined. Both GERC and the discipline groups are hoping for clarification on durable skills from the Summit and if there is overlap with the transferable skills that are listed in Darren Blagburn's project from last year. Would like to know how the conversations at the Summit connect the durable skills to general education. For example, how would these durable skills be assessed in general education?

Joanne listed the [transferable skills](#) included in Darren Blagburn's project from last year.

GERC wants to meet with the discipline group members again on October 24, 2023 for a

debrief on what is happening on the state level. Joanne will send them a Zoom invitation to that meeting.

The Discipline Group members left the meeting at this point.

2. SBOE is considering these revisions to [SBOE Policy III.N. Statewide General Education](#).

Hala will attend the Registrar's council meeting next week and be able to provide more context and a specific example so GERC will be able to respond to Faculty Senate.

4. Updates and Information:

- a. Executive Committee update - none
- b. Academic Affairs update – Karen Appleby - no report
- c. UCC update – Ben Bolin
UCC meets this Thursday to consider several proposals, more will be coming soon. A few new Gen Ed courses are being proposed, so GERC will soon be receiving new course proposals and assessment plans to consider.

Update from Bob Houghton on conversations in Faculty Senate. There was a conversation about a possible DEI course which was an inquiry regarding funding to conduct a survey, but there is no funding. A proposal for a gen ed course on sustainability is coming from Civil Engineering.

5. Unfinished Business:

- a. Select two or three internal and one or two external reviewers and begin the process in early Fall 2023 for the next phase of the [Gen Ed Program Review](#).

Potential candidates/nominees:

GERC members did not have any suggestions to offer. The Executive Committee has come up with a few names and will check with those people to see if they are interested in serving.

Internal ISU:

External:

Student Affairs?: Vice President of Student Affairs is working on finding someone.

- b. 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.

For GERC's consideration and suggestions:

[DRAFT: ISU Excellence in General Education Teaching Award Nomination](#) -

Joanne Togle displayed the draft document and briefly described its purpose. This is a start, but should be more fully fleshed out to reflect how the faculty want to recognize the efforts of their colleagues

ACTION: GERC members need to review this document more thoroughly and post their comments and suggestions for consideration at the next meeting.

- c. Objective 1 ORC Report: Jim Skidmore
Will be on the agenda for next time, and will be sent out to members in advance. Everyone should read the report and discuss it next time.

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

- a. New Assessment Plan Template with revised questions – for GERC’s consideration and approval
[Assessment plan questions annotated - April 2023](#)
[Assessment plan questions - revised April 2023](#)

ACTION: GERC will pilot the [Assessment plan questions - revised April 2023](#) template this fall to see how well it works out

The PHYS 1113 Assessment Plan is now ready for GERC’s consideration and feedback. It will be on the next meeting agenda for discussion. Once the first Physics plan is approved, it will serve as a model for the rest.

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

Assessment Plans for discussion when ready:

- c. [Obj 8 FIN 1115 Assessment Plan](#) – remanded for revisions
- d. [PHIL 2260 Assessment Plan](#) – GERC has **approved the course** for Objective 7; **Plan** still awaiting revisions

Physics will submit one or two Plans for GERC’s consideration to use as a template for the rest.

- e. [Revised Physics Assessment Plans folder](#)

[PHYS 1100 Assessment Plan](#)
[PHYS 1101 Assessment Plan](#)

[PHYS 1101L Assessment Plan](#)

[PHYS 1111 Assessment Plan](#)
[PHYS 1112 Assessment Plan](#)

[PHYS 1113 Assessment Plan](#)
[PHYS 1114 Assessment Plan](#)

[PHYS 1152 Assessment Plan](#)

[PHYS 1153 Assessment Plan](#)

[PHYS 2211 Assessment Plan](#)
[PHYS 2212 Assessment Plan](#)

[PHYS 2213 Assessment Plan](#)
[PHYS 2214 Assessment Plan](#)

7. Future Business -

- a. Discipline group members are scheduled to meet with GERC before and after the State Summit, on September 26 and October 24.
- b. [Transferable Skills Project](#) - for October 24 meeting:
 Darren Blagburn’s presentation and recommendations from last Spring. Since Darren has now left ISU, GERC and Academic Affairs should consider whether to continue this project into the future, or let it stop here.

8. Adjourn: 3:55 p.m.

Approved by GERC: October 10, 2023
 Accepted by UCC: October 19, 2023
 Accepted by Faculty Senate: November 6, 2023
 Accepted by Academic Affairs: October 26, 2023