

Minutes

General Education Requirements Committee

Tuesday, December 12, 2023

2:30-4:30 p.m.

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

Attendance: Jim Skidmore, Edward Kammerer, Joanne Tokle, Beverly Ray, Tayo Omotowa, Jonathan Gaddy, Kimberly Miller, Anna Grinath, Kirsten Bernabee
Ex-officio: Shu-Yuan Lin, Karen Appleby, Hala Abou Arraj, Sacha Johnson, Ben Bolin (UCC), Catherine Read
Excused: Kara Kener (ASISU); Karen Fullmer
Guest: Curt Whitaker, chair of Academic Standards Council

1. Announcements:

Curt Whitaker, chair of Academic Standards Council, will join GERC for discussion of ASC's proposal for Vertical Credits – see item 3.b. below.

2. Council **approved**, with one abstention, the Minutes for [November 14, 2023](#)

3. Updates and Information:

a. Executive Committee update – met Tuesday, Dec. 5 and finalized today's agenda.

b. Academic Standards Council – Curt Whitaker: ASC wants GERC's input on this document: [Vertical Credits Proposal](#) – would allow students with prior language experience who succeed in a higher level language course to be granted credits for preceding lower level courses in that language sequence.

Curtis gave a brief overview of the proposed policy and was asking for GERC's recommendation. Discussion ensued.

ACTION: Curtis Whitaker will bring the discussion points back to the Academic Standards Council, and will look into questions asked by GERC. GERC will provide feedback regarding vertical credits and general education.

c. Academic Affairs update – Karen Appleby
[ISU Excellence in Gen. Ed. Award nominations](#) – with Associate Deans' revisions, for GERC's review before it goes out to Deans.

Members discussed the revisions along with a few additional suggestions.

ACTION: Karen will make the suggested changes to the nomination section and the rubric, and will aim to have this process ready to put into use this coming semester. Nominations will be solicited at the start of spring 2024 semester.

d. UCC update – Ben Bolin – nothing to report.

4. Unfinished Business:

a. Select GERC members to chair Objectives 3 & 4 Review Committees in early Spring 2024:

Objective 3: Anna Grinath will chair

Objective 4: Tayo Omotowa and Joanne Tokle will co-chair. Tayo will take the lead on Languages, and Joanne will take the lead on Humanities/Fine Arts.

ACTION: Start putting the ORC committees together at the beginning of Spring semester. Departmental Five-Year Reports are due January 19.

b. [Transferable Skills Project](#)

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.

This project was piloted by the College of Business and College of Technology last year.

Transferable skills are not easily crosswalked back to our general education objectives. The discipline group members that attended the statewide Gen Ed Summit in October 2023 were enthusiastic about durable skills.

ACTION: Motion to pursue [Durable Skills](#) instead of Transferable Skills. Motion **seconded**. Motion **passed**.

5. **Assessment Plans** – *ready for discussion, following approved [Plan for PHYS 1113](#) as a template*

a. [PHYS 1114 Assessment Plan](#)

b. [PHYS 2213 Assessment Plan](#)

c. [PHYS 2214 Assessment Plan](#)

ACTION: Motion to **approve** the assessment plans for PHYS 1114, PHYS 2213 and PHYS 2214. Motion **seconded**. Motion **passed** unanimously; the three Plans were approved.

Still awaiting revisions:

d. [Obj 8 FIN 1115 Assessment Plan](#) – remanded for revisions

e. [PHIL 2260 Assessment Plan](#) – GERC has **approved the course** for Objective 7; **Plan** still awaiting revisions

Physics is using the approved Plan for PHYS 1113 as a template for the rest of these; will submit the completed Plans for GERC's consideration when they are ready.

f. [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 1152 Assessment Plan](#)

[PHYS 1153 Assessment Plan](#)

[PHYS 2211 Assessment Plan](#)

[PHYS 2212 Assessment Plan](#)

7. Future Business -

- a. Annual Assessment Report Spreadsheet – forthcoming for GERC’s review in mid-January.
- b. New Assessment Plan Template with revised questions – for GERC’s consideration and approval after review of pilot plans this fall.

[Assessment plan questions annotated - April 2023](#)

[Assessment plan questions - revised April 2023](#)

8. Adjourn: 3.58 p.m.

Approved by GERC: January 23, 2024
Accepted by UCC: January 25, 2024 by email vote
Accepted by Faculty Senate: February 5, 2024
Accepted by Academic Affairs: February 13, 2024