

**General Education Committee
Minutes**

September 8, 2014

Present:	Mark Jacobson	Bernie Quetchenbach
	Melinda Tilton	Kurt Toenjes
	Matthew Queen	Mike Havens
	Jennifer Lynn	Tom Regele
	Jodi Lightner	Leanne Gilbertsen
	Patricia Nichols	Rosemarie Dugi
	Elizabeth Fullon	TyRee Jenks
	Becky Lyons (ex-officio)	Kirtlye Schuman (ex-officio)

Absent: Scott Harris*

*excused

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. in McMullen 305.

The minutes of April 21 were accepted as presented.

I. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

A. ETS Testing

We had only 81 tests completed for the 2013-2014 year—that's with the incentive. We had higher numbers without the gift card. Our students are too busy to take a test outside of regular classtime, and the faculty do not want to use their regular classtime to administer the test.

B. COMPASS Test

The Academic Senate will be taking up a resolution on the matter this coming Thursday. We will find out if they will send it back to the GEC or not.

II. ELECTION OF CHAIR & CHAIR ALTERNATE FOR 2014-2015

Kurt Toenjes volunteered to be Chair, and Mike Havens volunteered to be Chair Alternate. There were no objections made, so the officers were elected.

III. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS continued

A. Goals for 2014-2015

Administration of the ETS test is not really the Gen Ed Committee's concern. We should make recommendations to the Senate and the Vice Provost, and the administration should take care of managing the testing. We can discuss the results.

The only way to get plenty of data is to make it a graduation requirement for all students. This can be done either as a check-off by faculty advisors at graduation, or by a no-fee course all students must take. We could require all students to take the ETS test online—so it's available whenever and where ever—and use the funding we were using for incentives to pay the extra cost of online ETS testing. An explanation to students before the test is given should emphasize the importance of making an effort on the test. If it is implemented as a graduation requirement, we won't have time this year, because graduation applications are due in November. So, we will have to muddle through one more year. A letter with the GEC's recommendation will be sent to the Academic Senate and the Vice Provost.

This year, we also need to talk about how the reduced number of credits in Gen Ed is working. What are the changes programs have made with the additional six credits? How is the new combined Social Sciences and History category working?

The Committee should also be discussing other ways, beyond the ETS test, that we can use to assess Gen Ed.

The meeting adjourned at 3:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Rita J. Rabe Meduna.