

**General Education Committee
Minutes**

February 22, 2016

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| Present: | Don Wilathgamuwa Kurt Toenjes Jennifer Lynn John Roberts Rosemarie Dugi Elizabeth Fullon Tara Haupt (ex-officio) | Melinda Tilton Brent Finger Tom Regele Leanne Gilbertsen Scott Harris Megan Thomas |
| Absent: | Matthew Queen Colin Buck (student) | Patricia Nichols* |

*excused

Kurt Toenjes called the meeting to order at 2:34 p.m. in McMullen 305.

The minutes of January 25 were accepted as presented.

I. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

A. Senate Request for PLA Committee Members

It is unclear whether this committee will stay ad hoc or become a standing committee. At any rate, prior learning is a statewide effort and this committee will help decide policies and procedures for MSUB. The GEC is to appoint three volunteers, two of which are to be from the College of Arts & Sciences. David Craig has already volunteered by email. John Roberts and Elizabeth Fullon also volunteered. The Committee thanked them for stepping up.

It was noted that the ad hoc committee will consider assessments for prior learning, and how they will be handled. These will not be like transfer credits. The volunteers are encouraged to bring a report to the GEC and get feedback on what the PLA committee is doing.

B. ETS Testing for Spring 2016

History has already completed their testing. Art will be April 25 at 11:40 a.m. The COE will be either April 15 or 22. Biology will be all day on April 26. Math's capstone course is in the fall, so it won't be done this semester.

We are still offering the \$25 bookstore gift cards as incentives. However, all involved agree they are not a long term solution.

The question was raised as to whether students really apply themselves to a voluntary exam. The results have shown that the students do try. Anecdotally, it's a point of pride for senior students to score well.

There seems to be a lot of pushback to making the test required of all students. The GEC asked the Provost to take over administering the test, and it got pushed to the Deans and went nowhere.

C. Building the Gen Ed Guides

Biology is working on proposing new biology survey courses, specifically focused for students in Environmental Studies or the Outdoor Adventure Leadership program. They are also considering a biology survey for health science majors. City College Gen Ed faculty met with the English faculty in CAS to discuss if City College students could take or test out of WRIT 101 and go into WRIT 201. History doesn't have recommendations for majors. The same is true for Communication. Art will forward objectives for their courses.

D. AACU Summer 2016 Gen Ed & Assessment Institute

Unfortunately, we missed the deadline.

The meeting adjourned at 3:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Rita J. Rabe Meduna.