

TCC General Education Committee end-of-year report

May 17, 2018

Submitted by David Kiracofe, Chair of GEC

The general education committee began meeting monthly as a governance committee in September 2017 with full representation of the eight competencies, plus transfer counseling, deans, adjuncts, and liaisons to the Curriculum and Instruction committees.

We are presently without representation for Cultural and Social Understanding due to the termination of the faculty member designated for that competency, but we should be able to fill this spot by the resumption of meetings in the Fall semester.

The charges of the GEC include:

1. Review and recommend any revisions to policies, procedures, plans, or other relevant documents that are germane to the purpose of the General Education Task Force; assist in drafting new policy and procedures, if needed. **We have been working to clarify the language used in the Proposal form, especially in clarifying the specific documentation applications need for approval. As chair, assisting faculty in the completion of these proposals, this has been the largest area of my participation: in assuring the appropriateness of documentation of the competencies and how they are supported.**
2. Implement general education course selection procedures. **We reviewed three faculty proposals this year: in Fall 2017 we took up BIO 106 which was approved with some revisions, and HUM 220 which was not approved, but may be re-submitted with revisions at a later point. In the spring we vetted PHI 227 which also failed to gain approval because of questions regarding transferability. As chair I drafted a lengthy document to assist the proposing faculty in what specific revisions were needed.**
3. As part of advancing Guided Pathways, redefine general education through determining competencies and align them with the general education requirements required by VCCS. **The GEC agreed that this redefinition requires collaboration with the faculty, but more importantly, the GEC feels that we need to see the Pathways established before we consider what General Education means within that structure. A major reorientation of the SCHEV list of core competencies is forthcoming: SCHEV is identifying four competencies (civic engagement, communication, critical thinking, and quantitative reasoning) and VCCS will include an additional two which have not yet been finalized (though one is likely to be scientific literacy). A meeting organized by SCHEV for June this summer will provide further information on the expectations**

anent these changes.

4. Develop and implement criteria and a review process to narrow the list of general education choices (e.g., 5 to 7 courses in Humanities, Social Sciences, etc.) to recommended courses as part of Guided Pathways, without unnecessarily removing the general education course selection. **As it is really the purview of the discipline faculty and Pathway colleagues to make their own selections based on their own curricular needs and the best interests of student learning, GEC is preparing a statement of the place of general education in the community college educational experience.**