

General Education Assessment Committee

Nov. 10, 2021

10am, Online via Zoom

Present: Tony Bleach (At-large Teaching Faculty Representative), Lauren Levine (CLAS), Amy Lynch-Binieck (at-large teaching faculty), Dannel MacIlwraith (VPA), Mostafa Maksy (COB), Krista Prock (Office of Assessment), Karen Rauch (Academic Affairs), Robert Ryan (at-large teaching faculty), Dan Stafford (at-large non-teaching faculty), and John Stanley (GEC).

Absent: David Beougher (Academic Dean), Amber Pabon (COE), Undergraduate Student Representative.

Guests: Bethany French

D. MacIlwraith called the meeting to order at 10:00am.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the October 20, 2021 meeting were presented for review.

Motion to approve the minutes by K. Prock, seconded by D. Stafford. Motion passed.

Welcome and Introductions

The committee welcomed the following new member: Tony Bleach (at-large teaching faculty).

Old Business

Update on Fall 2020 Report: D. MacIlwraith shared that A. Pabon has submitted the report to the Provost.

Spring 2021 Data Analysis: D. MacIlwraith shared that she met with Natalie Cartwright last week to discuss and review the data. N. Cartwright had used her own license in SPSS to analyze the datasets, and recommended finding someone familiar with SPSS to interpret the results and assist with data analysis. D. MacIlwraith then reviewed the data results with the committee. R. Ryan is familiar with SPSS and able to work with the data analysis and interpretation of the results on the report. D. MacIlwraith will send R. Ryan the data to work on this.

The data showed that minority students performed lower on the whole than white students in the ratings, and that Pell Grant recipients performed lower than non-recipients.

K. Prock reminded the committee that the benchmark is for all students to receive a rating of 2.0 or higher, and that the committee will need a breakdown of all the scores. Discussion ensued on the data and what to focus on in the report.

The committee noticed that there were more students scoring a 4 in this assessment than in previous ones, and the change from volunteer-rated to instructor-rated was questioned as affecting

the ratings. J. Stanley also wondered if the class modality could have made a difference in the scoring. Discussion continued.

K. Prock noted that there will be no data collection in Spring 2022, but the committee will need to work on a review and report on the full General Education Assessment Cycle. K. Rauch added that the report will be used as a starting point for the Gen Ed program review and self-study that begins next year. J. Stanley suggested asking for a group from GEAC and GEC to work on the program review, and to ask for release time for this work. K. Rauch added that a session at a conference she attended recently reviewed program review for Assessment and that the Association for General & Liberal Studies (AGLS) has guides to conducting program review for general education programs on their website. K. Rauch also informed the committee that she submitted a proposal for an enhancement of the assessment software we use, Nuventive, and that it has been approved at Cabinet. This will help with regular data collection, will integrate the rubric more easily in D2L, and will work more seamlessly with D2L than it currently does.

M. Maksy asked about recommendations to take back to COB to improve their assessment rating scores. R. Ryan stated that we need to make sure the interpretation is correct before providing feedback and noted that the data we have does not explain the “why” of the scoring, just what the scores currently are. R. Ryan added that if GEAC wants data for this use, it will take much more work. J. Stanley also clarified that the breakdown by college represents students with majors in that college, not courses taught in that college. L. Levine added that students could also have been anticipating less rigorous grading due to Covid and focused more effort on their major courses over their General Education courses. All of this context needs to be included in the report to provide background on the data collection.

New Business

Assessment Day: K. Rauch noted that there was not a GEAC presentation at the previous Assessment Day in September and recommended that GEAC conduct a session at the January Assessment Day. This would allow for greater communication between the committee and the faculty. The date will be around Jan. 19 or Jan. 20, 2022, and K. Prock shared that A. Pabon is able to present. K. Prock asked for suggestions for the committee members to discuss at the next meeting.

As May Arise

Fall 2021 Collection: D. MacIlwraith shared that four faculty members have already submitted items. She plans to send out a reminder for faculty to submit their assessment items before the end of the semester. There are about 80 faculty members in this semester’s assessment group, and the teaching faculty will be assessing and rating the work products from their courses. Norming sessions were held but were poorly attended. A recording of the last norming session has been provided to the faculty members for their review.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:55 am

/bf
11/15/2021