

General Education Assessment Committee

Sept. 8, 2023

9am, Online via Zoom

Present: Michele Baranczyk (Office of Assessment), Alexander Hernandez (at-large teaching faculty, Chair), Lauren Levine (CLAS), Amy Lynch-Binieck (at-large teaching faculty), Dannell MacIlwraith (VPA), Meg Norris (COE), Megan O’Byrne (GEC), Karen Rauch (Academic Affairs), and Dan Stafford (at-large non-teaching faculty).

Absent: Laurie McMillan (Academic Dean), Feisal Murshed (At-large Teaching Faculty Representative), COB Faculty Representative, and Undergraduate Student Representative.

Guests: Bethany French

A. Hernandez called the meeting to order at 9:05 am.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the May 12, 2023, meeting was presented for review. It was moved by L. Levine, and seconded by A. Lynch-Binieck, to approve the minutes. MOTION PASSED.

New Business

Welcome and Introductions

A. Hernandez introduced himself and welcomed the committee to the new year as the new chairperson. The other members introduced themselves.

Timeline of tasks by Subcommittee

A. Hernandez brought up the Timeline of Tasks and reviewed the subcommittee assignments with the committee. It was noted that R. Ryan is no longer on GEAC and should be removed from the document. A. Hernandez volunteered to take R. Ryan’s place on analyzing the data for the Spring 2023 assessment. B. French was asked to send the data from Rating Day on the C1 courses to the members on the subcommittee who need to analyze it.

Spring 2023 Assessment Report Update:

K. Rauch shared that there was 100% compliance on submitting student work products for the C1 courses; the C2 courses had a much lower compliance rate on submitting student work products. Discussion ensued.

L. Levine noted that the assignment/prompt was not provided during Rating Day for the student work that was being assessed, and added that the C1 Rubric was not designed with that in mind. A. Lynch-Binieck made a point about raters knowing who the audience for the assignment is and who the students are writing to, in order to more accurately rate the student work. M. Baranczyk asked

if there was a way to split the difference in having the assignment/prompt and knowing who the target audience is for an assignment. Discussion continued.

The committee asked about the C2 assessment, since it was not covered at the Rating Day event in May. M. Baranczyk shared that there was a very low compliance rate for those courses, and that many of the submissions were multiple choice questions and they were not sure how to assess them. K. Rauch added that many of the submissions were from multiple choice assignments in MathLab that are automatically graded, and that the Office of Assessment also received many comments about not knowing what to submit since they are multiple choice answers. A. Lynch-Binieck suggested having a discussion on how to address that and clarify submissions for the C2 instructors. Discussion ensued.

Fall 2023 Assessment – Category A1-A4

A. Hernandez opened discussion on the criteria for randomizing the sampling of student submissions in courses. M. Baranczyk shared that last year she had the Assessment Graduate Assistants use a randomizer and send the information of which student's work to submit to the instructor for each course and she recommends doing that again.

The committee discussed what sample size to use for this assessment. A. Lynch-Binieck recommended a smaller sample size per course since there are more courses and sections to assess in Category A than GEAC had in Category C. Discussion ensued. The committee decided to use a sample size of N=5 for each course this semester.

A. Lynch-Binieck asked about including having the audience for the assignment written at the top of each student work product, noting that the writing rubric does read: "Note: To be effectively assessed, artifacts need to be labeled with the intended genre and audience." M. O'Byrne added that the speaking assignments for the oral rubric will look very different to the written assignments. K. Rauch suggested forming a subcommittee to discuss the speaking assignments in communications and to make recommendations. The following members of GEAC volunteered for this subcommittee: K. Rauch, M. O'Byrne, A. Lynch-Binieck and M. Norris.

A. Hernandez shared that he has submitted a request to Institutional Research to obtain the list of courses and their rosters in Category A that are being taught this semester. Once the list is received, he will send it to M. Baranczyk to have the GAs start randomizing the samples.

Rubric Revisions Planning:

The committee discussed which rubrics to work on next in the conversion from holistic to analytic rubrics. It was suggested that the FYS rubric begin revision, since they will be assessed next fall and needs significant revision. K. Rauch noted that we need to complete the rubrics for SLO 6 first since that will be assessed in Spring 2024. The following volunteered to begin revision on the SLO 6 rubrics: A. Hernandez, D. MacIlwraith and K. Rauch.

Rating Day for Fall 2023 Assessment

A. Hernandez opened discussion on hosting a Rating Day for the Fall 2023 Assessment. He asked if it should be held in January, or should everything be saved to hold it in May alongside the Spring 2024 Assessment Rating Day. Discussion ensued. M. Baranczyk noted that January may be a tight timeline to complete the prep work for Rating Day, including redacting all the student work products and organizing the volunteers and which products they will be rating.

Concern was raised about whether or not temporary faculty would be able to participate in Rating Day in May as a professional development activity due to contract dates. K. Rauch and B. French will look into this to make sure of the details. There was also concern about having enough volunteers to complete all the items that will need rating.

The committee decided to attempt to conduct rating for both Fall 2023 and Spring 2024 at Rating Day in May 2024.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by A. Lynch-Binieck, and seconded by L. Levine, to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:02 am