

Mercer University
General Education Committee Minutes
UGEC meeting of AY2020-21
Thursday, March 25, 2021, 2-4 pm (Zoom)

Committee Members: Sharon Augustine, Linda A. Mason Barber, Wesley N. Barker, Stephen Hill, Gail Johnson, Grace G. Lewis, Suzie L. Madden, Julie Petherbridge, Stanley Roberts, Kathryn Kloepper, Nannette Turner, Susan Malone, Marilyn Mindingall, Susan Codone, Kelly J. McMichael, Candace Barnett, Renee L. Hayslett, Tammy Crutchfield, Loleta D. Sartin

Ex-Officio Members: Susan Codone, Susan Malone

Present: Achim Kopp, Colleen Stapleton, Susan Malone, Kathy Kloepper, Grace Lewis, Loleta Sartin, Renee Hayslett, Stephen Hill, Suzie Madden, Tammy Crutchfield, Candace Barnett

The agenda is as follows:

- 1) Welcome—Colleen Stapleton called the meeting to order.
- 2) Meeting minutes recorder for the meeting—Sharon Augustine volunteered for March 25, 2021 meeting.
- 3) Approval of minutes from February 25, 2021 meeting (posted in Canvas under the March 25, 2021 meeting documents)—
 - a) Motion: Kathy Kloepper
 - b) Second: Stephen Hill
 - c) Vote: Approved. None opposed.
- 4) Proposal from Tift College of Education to delete COMM 205 from, and add HUMA 205 to, the RAC and Atlanta catalogs (sent by Susan Morrissey, Chair of Undergraduate Curriculum Committee in Tift)
 - a) Discussion opened regarding making sure that all units bring any general education deletions and additions even if it is just to update a particular change because of a course deletion or course creation.
 - b) The committee voted to delete COMM 205 from Tift College of Education's general education offerings in the Fine Arts Group 2 section and replace it with HUMA 205 to the RAC and Atlanta catalogs.
 - i) Motion: Suzie Madden
 - ii) Second: Renee Hayslett
 - iii) Vote: Approved. None opposed.
- 5) Presentation of a rubric for Quantitative Reasoning by Kathy Kloepper
 - a) Rubric done jointly between COPA and CLAS
 - b) Reasoning Quantitatively will be ready and shared soon. This rubric is still being developed between the two units with Kathy and Wesley leading that work.
- 6) Update on Written Communication assessment by Kathy Kloepper
 - a) Writing rubric has been used by all units.
 - b) Written communication co-norming between COPA and CLAS has been used to assess student writing in their units. This work is wrapping up and they are discussing next steps. CLAS has had a workshop by Deneen Senasi based on this feedback.
 - c) Other Updates on Rubrics

- i) Oral Comm—in collection right now and when COPA is ready, CLAS and COPA will work together on norming. Oral Comm collection is for spring only because of Covid. However, Oral Comm in engineering is separate and is continuing to be collected.
- d) Rubrics are necessary because we haven't had outcomes for our competencies. The underlying Scientific Reasoning and Critical Thinking are next. CLAS starting with Scientific Reasoning. COPA is giving feedback. Kathy said there will be a taskforce for Critical Thinking.
- e) Deadline for rubrics to be set in time to assess them and have evidence by September of 2024.

New Business and Concluding Remarks:

- 1. Susan Malone—we don't have a university gen education presence on the website, and we might want to put that in the general education curriculum policies document and link it to the website for faculty.
- 2. Colleen Stapleton directed the group to the Canvas shell called UNV General Education Committee to reference the origin of the rubrics in the Module Relevant documents for UGEC section entitled "Practical Competencies for University General Education - unpublished, extended descriptions."
- 3. Sharon Augustine asked who will send out the university general education offerings that go in the catalogue now that Marylin Mindingall is retired. Susan said that there is only one deletion and addition with COMM 205 and HUMA 205, so we don't have to worry this year.
- 4. Colleen Stapleton asked who will be updating university general education sections of the catalogue. Susan Malone is waiting to hear who that will be. She said that she would probably do it for this year, but she noted that Kelly Reffitt would be taking over Marylin Mindingall's duties after Covid is no longer Kelly's main assignment.

Colleen asked for a motion to adjourn.

- a) Motion: Stephen Hill
- b) Second: Loleta Sartin
- c) Vote: Approved. None opposed.

Meeting adjourned at 2:40 PM—a record short meeting for this committee!