

**GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**October 8, 2015**  
**Minutes**

Attending: Gail Fernandez, Denise Budd, Joshua Guttman, Gina Hermann, Kate Hossain, Tracy Saltwick, Takvor Mutafoglu, Coleen di Lauro, Keith Chu, Andrew Tomko, Ann Brown

1. Meeting started at 12:35. Keith Chu was introduced as the replacement for Christine Eubanks.
2. September Minutes were accepted 11-0-0.
3. The chair advised the committee to review the Gen Ed course list in the academic catalog for course listing accuracy.
4. Ann Brown asked how a course is approved for Gen Ed status. Andrew Tomko said the first step is to review the NJCCC General Education Course List by College Update (<http://www.njccc.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/June-15-2015-CC-Gen-Ed-Course-List-by-college-revised.pdf>) to see if the course is listed. If it is not, it will be very difficult to get a course approved.
  - a. The NJCCC General Education home page is a good resource:  
<http://www.njccc.org/professional-resources/general-education-resources/>
  - b. Link to Bergen General Education course approval forms:  
<http://www.bergen.edu/academics/general-education-program/course-approval/course-approval-forms>
5. General Education Workshop Discussion
  - a. The chair sent faculty development an email suggesting workshops on the LEAP Essential Learning Outcomes and critical thinking. They will get back to us when a chair is chosen for that committee.
  - b. Kate Hossain will look into whether the library has a subscription to Magna (critical thinking video). Faculty development is exploring other ways to reach adjuncts and faculty who cannot attend workshops. Online workshops are a good alternative.
6. Rubric Discussion
  - a. ***Intercultural Knowledge and Competence rubric:***
    - i. How do we measure empathy? Can empathy be taught?
    - ii. Diversity courses take into account intercultural knowledge.
    - iii. Will get faculty pushback from parts of the rubric.
    - iv. We will use the rubric with modifications.

- b. ***Ethical Reasoning and Action rubric:***
    - i. Can measure knowledge and skills.
    - ii. Faculty often doesn't give assignments that ask for what the rubric is looking for.
    - iii. Will not use.
  
  - c. ***Inquiry and Analysis Rubric***
    - i. Will use with some modification.
7. Why do we only look at students who have at least 45 credits?
- a. The purpose of assessing the general education program is to determine whether after taking courses in their programs and the required general education courses, students nearing completion of their degrees have received an education that makes them "generally educated" people. If we assess students with fewer credits, such as first semester students, we won't know whether the college has helped in this goal.
8. The chair mentioned that the October Faculty Senate meeting will include a discussion of the future general education committee membership and organization.
9. Meeting adjourned at 1:25.

Submitted by Gail Fernandez