

# *GE Meeting Minutes*

October 10, 2022

## **I. Call to order**

Heather Holland called to order the GE Committee at 4:00 p.m. October 10, 2022. The following were present: Lindsay Chaney, Lorie Hughes, Michael Olsen, Kristi Stevens, Nick Marsing, Anthony Beal, Trent Fawcett, and John VanOrman. Alex Snyder and Landon Peterson via Zoom.

## **II. Approval of minutes**

Postponed

## **III. Welcome and Congratulations**

A. Chair Holland congratulates Michael on the birth of his twins.

B. The committee welcomes John VanOrman as the new at-large rep. for Ephraim.

## **IV. Review syllabus**

### **A. GEOG 1100**

1. Add journal, and/or journal. Michael will talk to Renee.

2. Nick motions; Kristi seconds. Unanimous vote to approve GEOG 1100 pending minor changes.

## **V. IE**

A. Is there a dedicated box for IE? IE still needs to address outcomes 1-4. This might be a discussion the committee wants to continue after Educated Persons.

## **VI. Foundations student focus groups**

A. Chair Holland asks what kind of data the committee would like to gather from the focus groups. What kind of information would help students understand how Foundations fits into the GE program?

B. Discussion on the purpose of the focus groups. In conversations with some students it seems they are not understanding the purpose of Foundations. They do not feel Foundations has a purpose in GE. It is just an extra class tacked onto their schedule. Some Foundations classes are rigorous and other classes have little work.

C. Student evaluation comments are not matching what people are hearing from students. The focus groups will hopefully add some clarity to what students feel.

D. The committee is looking at data to see what things could be added to course structure to help students see beginning to end. This is not an attempt to end Foundations.

E. The Foundations group is meeting next week to finalize a master syllabus. They will send the syllabus to GE. The committee will have time to approve the syllabus after the focus group.

F. What will the focus group questions accomplish that student evaluations do not answer? A focus group allows students to be together. There will be back and forth and a more in depth discussion.

G. Questions committee members suggest include:

What was the purpose of this class? If students feel it was to learn about a theme, that is missing the mark.

Can you identify three purposes of the class?

What did you learn?

Were there skills you learned in Foundations that will help you in college?

Identify a skill that you learned.

How did Foundations help you learn and work as a team?

H. The focus groups should be viewed as a marketing analysis, how Foundations is being received by students. Are students buying into the concept? Why did they choose one course over another? The college has assessment from artifacts, student evaluations, and now needs student perception to complete the picture.

I. Questions more along the lines of perception could include:

Describe your Foundations experience.

How would you change your Foundations experience?

Would you like Foundations to look more like a freshmen orientation?

What was your expectation of your class?

J. Foundations is not taught at other institution. This is an institutional requirement, which other institutions have. In that regards it is not unique to Snow but Foundation courses are unique.

K. Foundations seems to be trying to merge two things that might not fit together. It talks about teaching study skills or success skills and then an interdisciplinary approach to education. The intention of Foundations is to get students into the college mindset, not introduce them to college.

L. Students view college as choose your own adventure and by requiring Foundations does Snow take part of that away from students.

**M.** The GE Committee does not decide the fate of Foundations. They want to look at how does the college successfully market the course to students and make it feel part of the Snow College experience.

**N.** A couple more questions could be:

Did you feel you had a choice in your Foundations course?

If you were to advise a student about Foundations what would you advise them?

**O.** Chair Holland will come up with 5 or 6 questions based on today's discussion to give to Beckie Hermansen.

## **VII. Adjournment**

Chair Holland adjourned the meeting at 5:06 p.m. Minutes submitted by: Amy Noblett