

# *GE Meeting Minutes*

November 28, 2022

## **I. Call to order**

Heather Holland called to order the GE Committee at 4:00 p.m. November 28, 2022. The following were present: Lindsay Chaney, Michael Olsen, Kristi Stevens, Andy Nogasky, Lorie Hughes, Ryan Thalman, John VanOrman, and Anthony Beal

## **II. Minutes**

Lorie motions; John seconds. Unanimous vote to approve minutes from 9/26/22 and 10/24/22.

## **III. Update on changes to R470**

**A.** Provost Jenkins reports the GE Task Force just presented to the CAOs so they would have an idea of proposed changes to R470. The Task Force have been working on R470 for at least a year. Equity is on their minds this year. Another topic is the national conversation that devalues higher education and GE in general.

**B.** Provost Jenkins states the first change to R470 is a preamble, which will justify GE. The policy is driven and written by stakeholders. Members of the GE Task Force have discussed the value of GE and why they believe in it. The Commissioners Office sponsors policy and then it goes to CAOs. After CAOs it moves to the Council of Presidents and then to the Board of Education. The board has the final vote so it is very important they understand the purpose of GE.

**C.** The second significant change is going to be updated language on active learning and high impact practices. Snow already implements these.

**D.** The third change is equity. There will be a diversity requirement. There is now a diversity committee at the state level that has a lot of influence and power. Lisa Michelle Church is the chair of this committee and understands diversity better than anyone. She is pushing hard for this requirement. Currently with R470 diversity is not a core or breadth area. It is in there but there is nothing specifically dedicated to diversity. The discussion is to add a sixth category for diversity. If you believe in the value of diversity it should already be embedded throughout your curriculum. It will be the expectation that diversity be covered in all GE. All students will be required to complete diversity outcomes.

**E.** Another aspect of equity across the GE program is preserving everyone's unique GE and assuring transferability. For example Foundations at Snow. Does Snow want to have it count for GE, be an institutional requirement, or find a way to make it a knowledge

area. Another challenge for Snow is the lab for science. Most institutions have gone to an embedded lab. That is an equity issue for Snow where there needs to be more consistency.

F. Grades are also a topic of discussion. There are drastically different grade requirements for GE. The Task Force is trying to come to some consensus. Some institutions have C's as a requirement while others allow a D- for GE but require C or higher for majors.

G. GE requirements are holding up completion for some students. Math is a huge problem.

H. Silos are arbitrary. Social science is different at institutions. We have drawn arbitrary lines.

I. The GE Task Force will ask for representation from all institutions as they move forward. They are asking for people that know GE. They want broad representation so for Snow it will likely be the GE Committee.

J. Snow has outcomes that are particularly problematic, especially in fine arts. We need to revisit these so there is some consistency. If a course fulfills a knowledge area at a transfer institution, it will be received at the receiving institution. The committee needs to look at GE outcomes. The goal is to hold students harmless for transfer.

K. Snow has a strong voice because Provost Jenkins is Co-Chair of GE Task Force and AP Chaney is also a strong voice on the committee.

L. Timetable is tentative. The GE Task Force should complete their part in a couple of months. Policy will be complete hopefully next fall. There shouldn't be many revisions once the policy leaves GE Task Force.

M. The biggest thing for Snow will be the diversity box and our unique institutional requirement.

#### IV. Syllabi for approval

A. Kristi motions; Andy seconds. Unanimous vote to approve ART 1040 pending minor changes.

B. Kristi motions; Lorie seconds. Unanimous vote to approve BIOL 1420 and BIOL 1425 pending minor changes.

C. Andy motions; Kristi seconds. Unanimous vote to approve MUSC 1166 pending minor changes.

**V. Assessment**

A. AP Chaney reports Humanities and Fine Arts and Communication will be assessed this May.

**VI. Adjournment**

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