

Office of the Senior Vice Provost for Undergraduate Studies

General Education Program *phone:* 215-204-2855
1801 N. Broad Street *fax:* 215-204-3175
500 Conwell Hall (040-07) *email:* gened@temple.edu
Philadelphia, PA 19122-6096 *web:* gened.temple.edu

2015-2016 Faculty Senate Report
General Education Program

May 3, 2016

General Education Executive (GEEC) and Area Coordinator Committee

In August 2015 Dana Dawson came on board as the newly appointed GenEd Associate Director. As a result of this, during this academic year the two GenEd (GEEC and the Area Coordinators) committees, which convened together during the previous academic year due to the vacancy of the associate director position, returned to meeting separately.

Each committee: The GenEd Executive as well as the Area Coordinators met for a total of 15 meetings over the course of the academic year, roughly once every two weeks.

Issues Addressed/Discussed by the Committee during the Year:

- The Provost charged GEEC to help develop and review a new Technology Literacy course. In the process of developing the course, it became apparent that two pedagogically different courses were needed. GEEC worked diligently to get the two new tech courses approved for piloting during AY 2016-17: “Demystifying Technology,” and “Tech Horizons.”
- The Office of Digital Education and GEEC have been working on adapting the Quality Matters standards for GenEd online courses. The GenEd Program will have a standard brand for the all of its online courses to be rolled out in AY 2017-18.
- The Provost has also charged GEEC to develop a restructured model of the GenEd curriculum. The moratorium for the development of any new courses for the GenEd inventory is still in place.

Decisions and Actions Taken:

- GA waiver also granted to the Theater Department (Center for the Arts) so that they are now in alignment with already existing waivers in the Boyer College of Music and the Tyler School of Art, all now within the Center for the Arts.

- Approved for piloting during the AY 2016-17 are the following two courses: “Tech Horizons,” and “Demystifying Technology.” total of eight (8) new courses were approved by GEEC/Area Coordinators and added to the various breadth areas of the curriculum.
- As part of a revived internal assessment practices in GenEd, a series of focus groups were implemented over the course of the spring term. Student, faculty, and staff each had separate meetings in order to help inform the future direction of the program.
- In May 2016 GEEC’s proposed model will be presented to Peter Jones, Senior Vice Provost for Undergraduate Studies, who will bring it forward for discussion with the Provost.
- With the continued new course development moratorium being in place, it was determined, after consulting GEEC and Peter Jones, Senior Vice Provost, that the number of area coordinators will be consolidated for the AY 2016-17.

GenEd Course Re-Certification Process:

GEEC has also been actively engaged with the continuation of the GenEd Course Re-certification process. For the academic year under review there are six (6) courses to be evaluated for re-certification. The deadline for the submissions is May 20, 2016.

There were also six (6) courses from the previous academic year (2014-15) which were placed on probation. The departments were asked to submit a plan of action to correct the deficiencies by mid-November 2015. All departments complied. GEEC will be re-evaluating each of these courses this summer based on resubmitted materials. With the assistance of the GenEd area coordinators, GEEC continues to play a central role in maintaining the integrity of the General Education Program.

Among some of the other points of discussion and areas of focus for the committee have been:

- Communicating the central role of undergraduate education to university community.
- Process for purging some courses in breadth areas.
- The role of GEEC in an RCM environment.
- The decline of the course learning outcomes as seats ramp up in sections (evidenced by submitted course re-certification documents).
- Methods by which GEEC and the Director of GenEd can be more engaged in determining who teaches GenEd courses.

Respectfully submitted by,
Istvan Varkonyi

GenEd Executive Committee /GenEd Area Coordinators AY 2015-16

<u>Name/Rank/College</u>	<u>GEEC</u>	<u>Area Coordinator</u>
1. Debra Blair/NTT/STHM		X (Race & Diversity, GD)
2. Gerard Brown/ T/Tyler	X	
3. Mary Anne Gaffney/T/Fox		X (Human Behavior, GB)
4. Mary Conran/NTT/Fox	X	
5. Michael Hesson/ NTT/CLA	X	
6. Vallorie Peridier/T/Engineering		X (Technology, QL [GQ, GS])
7. Ted Latham/T/Boyer		X (Arts, GA)
8. Patricia Moore-Martinez/NTT/CLA		X (World Society, GG)
9. Shannon Walters/T/CLA)		X (Analytical Reading & Writing, GW)
10. Travis Perry/Graduate Student/CLA	X	
11. Laura Pendergast /TT/Education	X	
12. Joe Schwartz/T/CLA		X (Intellectual Heritage, GY/GZ)
13. Deb Stull/NTT/CST	X	
14. Susan Jensen Varnum /T/CST		X (Science, GS)
15. Bridget Mancano/NTT/Public Health	X	
16. David Ingram/NTT/Theater	X	
17. Ralph Young/NTT/CLA		X (US Society, GU)
18. Abigail Lowe/Honors Student	X	
19. Meredith Ketterer/Temple Student Govt.	X	

Non-voting member on GEEC: Anar Khandvala, Associate Director CLA Advising Unit
Caitlyn Shanley, Paley Library