03 Update: Spring 2018 Update to Faculty and Staff

University of Northern Iowa. General Education Re-envisioning Committee.

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Recommended Citation
University of Northern Iowa. General Education Re-envisioning Committee., "03 Update: Spring 2018 Update to Faculty and Staff" (2018). General Education Re-envisioning Committee Documents. 3. https://scholarworks.uni.edu/gerc_documents/3

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Dear Faculty and Staff,

The General Education Re-envisioning Committee wants to update you on its progress during Spring 2018.

As you will recall, during the summer and fall of 2017, the Provost, Faculty Chair, and the Faculty Senate Chair and Vice Chair developed the committee and its charge. On November 13th, these were approved by a unanimous University Faculty Senate vote (Calendar item #1352, Docket #1240). The approved document is also attached to this email.

The committee first convened on December 4th to receive its charge and to map out the work to be done. After the winter break, the committee began meeting regularly.

Committee members have been studying other general education programs across the country, as well as best practices suggested by national organizations such as AAC&U and the Lumina Foundation. Five members of the committee attended the AAC&U General Education Conference in February to learn more about successful programs at other universities.

The committee also developed a thorough, multi-stage process by which to gather campus-wide input on the mission, learning goals and outcomes, and structure of the new general education program before final approval. The approval process proposed by the committee was approved by a unanimous University Faculty Senate vote on March 26th (Calendar item #1377, Docket #1264).

Over the summer, the committee will complete drafts of potential mission statements and learning goal areas. In early fall semester, the committee looks forward to scheduling listening sessions to gather campus-wide feedback on the drafts.

Sincerely,

The General Education Re-envisioning Committee

Brenda Bass, Dean, CSBS – Co-Chair, non-voting
John Fritch, Dean, CHAS – Co-Chair, non-voting
CJ (Carlos) Aldape, NISG
Heather Asmus, Advising
Tristan Bernhard, NISG
Adam Butler, CSBS
Jonathan Chenoweth, CHAS
Angie Cox, Library
Mary Donegan-Ritter, COE
Deedee Heistad, Director, Undergraduate Studies, non-voting
Chuck Holcombe, CSBS
Ana Kogl, CSBS
Ken McCormick, CBA
Ryan McGeogh, CHAS
Jeff Morgan, UCC
Steve O’Kane, CHAS
John Ophus, LAC Fellow
Susan Roberts-Dobie, COE
Jeremy Schraffenberger, CHAS
Doug Shaw, CHAS