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39 Update: Phase 2 Senate Charge and Approved Committee Membership

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

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General Education Revision: Draft Charge for the Next Committee

In accordance with the intent of the original charge approved by the Senate on 11/13/2017, and as developed during subsequent discussions and consultations, the next iteration of the General Education Re-envisioning Committee will focus on the following tasks:

1) Propose a name for UNI's General Education Program: The program should have a name that embodies its narrative, that engages students, and that inspires faculty. The previous committee has already discussed a few names, and faculty have offered feedback. These may, or may not, offer a starting point. The next committee will have the creative liberty to propose a name that meaningfully emerges from their work.

2) Establish a conceptual framework: The HLC requires every General Education program to be contextualized around a philosophical framework (see HLC Criteria for Accreditation 3.B.2). This framework should clarify the value of, and affirm UNI's commitment to, a strong liberal arts education. It should also articulate our aspirations for our students, describing the nature of the expected transformation.

3) Align current courses, and possibly new courses, within the approved SLO-based structure: This committee will issue a call for proposed courses to be included in the program. This phase will include the development of clear guidelines for faculty to propose existing and new courses and certificates for inclusion. Each proposal must specify course objectives and describe how they will be met, demonstrate how these objectives qualify the course for inclusion in the structure approved by the Faculty Senate, and indicate the faculty member's willingness to meet Gen Ed assessment requirements.

4) Establish structures for coordinating, maintaining, and reviewing the new program, which will include both faculty and administrative oversight: These structures should be developed with a view toward facilitating continuing innovation, adaptability, potential collaboration, and effectiveness in delivering the approved SLOs. The new committee should engage in the training and education—such as participation in relevant conferences—that will enable them to develop a system of regular monitoring and adjustment of the program. This monitoring should include rubrics for learning assurance, such as the VALUE rubrics provided by the AAC&U. Our intention is that the committee will make continual incremental improvements and adjustments to the program, obviating the need for major overhauls in the future.

5) Participate with the Faculty Senate in nominating a director for the new program: This director will execute the initiatives of the committee, such as monitoring and publicizing the extent to which the program is achieving its aims, and guiding the committee as it recommends to the Senate any necessary adjustments.

Committee members

- 1) Brenda Bass (co-chair) (Dean, CSBS)
- 2) Mary Donegan-Ritter (COE, Curriculum & Instr.)
- 3) Susan Hill (CHAS, Phil & World Religions)
- 4) Charles Holcombe (CSBS, History)
- 5) Lisa Jepsen (CBA, Economics)
- 6) Ana Kogl (co-chair) (CSBS, Political Science)
- 7) Ryan McGeogh (CHAS, Comm Studies)
- 8) Jeff Morgan (CHAS, Physics)
- 9) John Ophus (Undergraduate Studies)
- 10) Jeremy Schraffenberger (CHAS, Lang & Lit)

Liaisons (to be consulted as appropriate)

- 1) Library: Angela Pratesi
- 2) CETL: Jonathan Chenoweth
- 3) Advising: Heather Asmus
- 4) NISG: TBD