

# FHSU General Education Committee

---

## Minutes

### Meeting Called by

Bradley Will, Chair

**Date:** Thursday November 18, 2020

**Time:** 3:30-5:00

**Location:** cyberspace

### Members

Douglas Drabkin (AHSS)

Marcella Marez (AHSS)

Christina Glenn (BE)

David Schmidt (BE)

Sarah Broman Miller (Ed)

Phillip Olt (Ed)

Glen McNeil (HBS)

Denise Orth (HBS)

Joe Chretien (STM)

Lanee Young (STM)

Robyn Hartman (Lib)

Helen Miles (Senate)

Isaiah Schindler (SGA)

Cheryl Duffy (Goss Engl)

Tanya Smith (Grad Sch)

---

3:31 (1 minute) All members were present with the exception of Duffy, Glenn, McNeil, and Miller. Hartman served as proxy for Duffy, Miles as proxy for McNeil, and Schmidt as proxy for Glenn and Miller. Determined that a quorum was met.

3:32 (1 minute) Last week's minutes were approved.

3:33 (19 minutes) The committee spent some time examining the assignments and rubrics for BIOL 100: Human Biology, BIOL 200: Humans and the Environment, BIOL 300: Human Heredity, and BIOL 102: Laboratory Experiences in Biology, which are being proposed to satisfy the 2.1D outcomes (natural scientific mode of inquiry). We weren't considering these proposals for CORE approval this week. Rather, given the disconnect we have been encountering in recent weeks between the 2.1D outcomes and the proposals that have come to us to meet these outcomes, we were looking for something to serve as a helpful model to departments working up 2.1D proposals. (*Note: Chair has agreed to speak with Gavin Buffington from the Department of Physics about developing just such a model. See minutes from November 5 and November 12.*) Some of these proposals seemed promising to the committee, for example, BIOL 102 for outcome 3, and BIOL 100 for outcome 1. But problems were also noted, for example, BIOL 100's proposal for outcome 2 doesn't involve evaluating the merits of examples of natural scientific research, and neither BIOL 200's nor BIOL 300's proposal for outcome 1 involve identifying the essential characteristics of natural science questions. (BIOL 300 involves identifying the essential characteristics of a particular genetic *technique*, which is something different.)

3:52 (7 minutes) The committee briefly considered a proposal for GSCI 340: Environmental Geology to satisfy the 2.1D outcomes (natural scientific mode of inquiry). As there was a clear disconnect between the proposed assessment tool and outcome 1, the committee voted unanimously to **table** the proposal.

3:59 (54 minutes) The committee considered a proposal for SOC 388: Sociology of the Family in America to satisfy two outcome sets: 1.4 (information literacy), and 2.1F (social scientific mode of inquiry). In the end, the committee voted unanimously to **table** the proposal. Regarding the 2.1F outcomes, it was noted that the assessment for outcome 1 doesn't involve identifying an applicable explanatory framework "within a given scenario." And regarding the 1.4 outcomes, the committee accepted the judgment of the 1.4 faculty advisory panel that more attention needs to be given in the course to teaching the information literacy content. Discussion in the meeting turned to how departments should go about setting up program-specific information literacy courses. Hartman reminded us that she is available to serve as a consultant, and encouraged departments to contact her.

4:53 Meeting ended. Our next meeting will be Thursday December 3 at <https://fhsu.zoom.us/j/94675596647>.

*[Addendum for the record: Chair has received revisions for four courses all which were approved contingent upon revisions being made -- GSCI 110: World Geography, MATH 101: Contemporary Mathematics, MATH 234: Analytic Geometry and Calculus I, and MATH 331: Calculus Methods -- and he has sent them on to Academic Affairs.]*

---

**Submitted by D. Drabkin, Recording Secretary**

