

FHSU General Education Committee

Minutes

Meeting Called by

Bradley Will, Chair

Date: Thursday December 13, 2018

Time: 3:30-5:00

Location: Gella's Diner, 11th Street

Members

Douglas Drabkin (AHSS)

Marcella Marez (AHSS)

Jessica Heronemus (BE)

David Schmidt (BE)

Sarah Broman (Ed)

Kevin Splichal (Ed)

Trey Hill (HBS)

Glen McNeil (HBS)

Joe Chretien (STM)

Tom Schafer (STM)

Robyn Hartman (Lib)

Helen Miles (Senate)

Adam Schibi (SGA)

Cheryl Duffy (Goss Engl)

Tanya Smith (Grad Sch)

3:53 (1 minute) This was the committee's fifteenth and final meeting of Fall 2018. All members were present with the exception of Broman, Schibi, and Schmidt. Duffy served as proxy for Broman. Determined that a quorum was met.

3:54 (1 minute) Chair announced, on the basis of last week's Doodle Poll, that meetings should continue next semester on Thursday afternoons.

3:55 (half an hour, more or less) The committee considered a series of questions raised by the department of leadership studies about the FHSU CORE program: (1) How will we enable "undoing, fixing, or changing" things to keep the program continually improving? (2) How will we decide which courses are approved for the program? (3) How will we keep relevant administrators involved in the transition to the new program? (4) How will we preserve the "institutional knowledge" necessary to ensure that the rationale for the well-thought-through elements of the program aren't lost, the natural tendency of humanity to regress to boneheadedness being what it is? And (5) what balance will we strike between conservative values (keep what has been working) and progressive values (making real improvements)? (1) and (2) will be handled by the policies and procedures we will be hammering out and approving in January. (3) looks like a job for the [director of general education](#). But (4) gave us pause. How indeed will we pass on the reasoning that lies behind the choices we have made? We will do our best to preserve the program's rationale and the thinking behind its policies and procedures by making as much as we can clear and accessible to everyone through the university website. (5) also gave us pause. How much will change, over time, as we move to an outcomes-based approach to general education? The courses proposed by departments will likely be very similar to those that currently exist, with some brand new courses added in. Meeting the needs of students who transfer in and out of our university

requires us to maintain many of the courses that are common to our old program and common to programs throughout the Kansas Regents system. But our outcomes-based approach will inevitably give many of our old courses new focus.

4:30? The meeting relaxed into side conversations, some of the more serious having to do with opportunities the CORE program provides, both for ill and for good, and challenges we face moving forward. When the meeting ended is unclear, but the sun was low in the west as we went our separate ways.

Submitted by D. Drabkin, Recording Secretary

