

Minutes for the Meeting of the Committee on General Education
10-21-14

Ruffner 103

2:00-2:45 pm

In attendance: Derek Taylor (Chair), Lily Goetz, Melanie Marks, Sara Miller, Mark Fink (for Chris McGee), Carl Riden, Linda Townsend (for Ling Whitworth), Susan May (for Ken Perkins)

The purpose of this initial meeting was to determine what work most needed doing in these final years of the current iteration of general education at Longwood (which is slated to be replaced in the near future, likely in AY 17-18).

In the first place, committee members agreed to review assessment data for all general education courses on a three-year cycle. Given that there are 14 goals, this will entail dividing the work up into not-quite thirds—e.g., goals 1-4 in AY 14-15, goals 5-9 in AY 15-16, and goals 10-14 in AY 16-17.

Secondly, given our charge to “encourage the teaching and learning of written and oral communication skills throughout the University, and consider and evaluate different policies designed to improve competence in written and oral communication” (*FPPM* p. 192), members of the committee agreed to evaluate implementation of the university’s Writing Intensive and Speaking Intensive policies, again on a three-year cycle—WI in AY 14-15, SI in AY 15-16, and both WI and SI in AY 16-17.

There was productive discussion of ways sometimes “hidden” strategies for teaching writing might be shared, both with the broader Longwood community and specifically with members of the ACCC (Academic Core Curriculum Committee) as they seek to address widely shared concerns about student writing.

The committee agreed to meet again on a yet-to-be determined Friday afternoon in order to begin dividing up assessment reviews.

Respectfully submitted,

Derek Taylor