

Minutes – General Education Council, September 10, 2018

Angela La Valley called the meeting to order at 2:01 pm on Monday, September 10, 2018 in the Andruss Library Schweiker room.

Members Present: Angela La Valley, Jerrold Harris (sub for Sheila Dove-Jones), Melissa Cheese, Janet Rarig, Jung Kim, Carolyn LaMacchia, Cherie Roberts, Bob Heckrote, Linda Neyer, Ben Franek, Jennifer Johnson, Brooke Lylo, Safa Saracoglu, Dina Clark (sub for Loren Selznick).

Guests: Chris Donahue, Jing Luo, Julie Vandivere, Cindy Venn, Meaghan Fuhrman

1. Approval of the Agenda of September 10, 2018.

Jerrold Harris moved to approve the agenda. Melissa Cheese seconded the motion.

**Motion to approve the agenda passed by voice vote unanimously.**

2. Approval of the Minutes of [April 16, 2018](#).

Linda Neyer moved to approve the minutes. Jerrold Harris seconded the motion.

**Motion to approve the minutes passed by voice vote with one abstention.**

3. Proposals

A. [Chinese 203](#)- Chinese 3 for 2 GEP's Goal 1 Communication

Bob Heckrote made a motion to recommend Chinese 203-Special Topics in Central and East European Studies for 2 GEP's Goal 1 Communication BUCC. Janet Rarig seconded the motion.

Jing Luo presented the proposal.

**Recommendations/Suggestions:**

- Effective semester change to Winter 2018
- Add language to Q2 to request that GEPs be retroactive, with rationale that the content of the course is not changing.
- Item 10 methods: add recommended class size, if necessary.
- Item 11a, add word "tasks" at the end.
- Item 12 – 11d change to "Responses **on** tests..."
- Under table in #11, paste wording for justification for GEPs

**Motion to recommend to BUCC with revisions passed by voice vote.**

B. [Chinese 204](#)- Chinese 4 for 3 GEP's, 2 in Goal 1 Communication and 1 in Goal 4 Cultures and Diversity

Carolyn LaMacchia moved to recommend Chinese 204-Chinese 4 for 3 GEPs, 2 in Goal 1 Communication and 1 in Goal 4 Cultures and Diversity to BUCC. Linda Neyer seconded.

Jing Luo presented the proposal.

**Recommendations/Suggestions:**

- Uncheck box 2c on document P
- If recommended class size is added, check box 3.
- Change effective semester to Winter 2018
- Add language to Q2 to request that GEPs be retroactive, with rationale that the content of the course is not changing.
- Q2 typo, word should be “skills” not “stills.”
- Explain in Q2 how the course fulfills Goal 4, and make sure the language appears in the justification following student learning objectives.
- Recommended class size in item 10, if desired.
- Item 11, should say Chinese 204, not 203
- Item 11, rubrics are listed, but not specific element used
- Item 12, 11d, change wording to “responses **on** tests...”

**Motion to recommend to BUCC with revisions passed by voice vote.**

- C. [Spanish 405](#)- Spain for 3 GEP's, 1 GEP Goal 1 Communication, 1 GEP Goal 4 Cultures and Diversity, and 1 GEP Goal 7 Arts and Humanities
- D. [Spanish 406](#)- Latin America for 3 GEP's, 1 GEP Goal 1 Communication, 1 GEP Goal 4 Cultures and Diversity, and 1 GEP Goal 7 Arts and Humanities

Linda Neyer moved to recommend Spanish 405-Spain and Spanish 406-Latin America for 3 GEPs, 1 GEP Goal 1 Communication, 1 GEP Goal 4 Cultures and Diversity, and 1 GEP Goal 7 Arts and Humanities to BUCC. Jerrold Harris seconded.

Chris Donahue presented the proposal for both courses.

**Recommendations/Suggestions:**

- Effective semester change to Spring 2019
- SLO 1 note that the rubric is modified.

**Motion to recommend to BUCC with revisions passed by voice vote.**

- E. [Eggs 100](#)- Introduction to Environmental Science for 3 GEP's Goal 5 Natural Sciences

Ben Franek moved to recommend EGGS 100-Introduction to Environmental Science for 3 GEPs Goal 5 Natural Sciences to BUCC. Linda Neyer seconded.

Cindy Venn presented the proposal.

**Recommendations/Suggestions:**

- Change effective date to Winter 2018
- Revise rubrics to link with SLOs and add a 0 column for benchmark not met
- Delete word “revised” from top of rubric

**Motion to recommend that courses continue to have GEPs passed by voice vote.**

- F. [Honors 175](#)- Training the Body and Mind for 3 GEP’s, 1 GEP for Goal 2 Information Literacy and 2 GEP’s Goal 9 Healthy Living

Safa Saracoglu moved to recommend Honors 175-Training the Body and Mind for 3 GEP’s, 1 GEP Goal 2 Information Literacy and 2 GEP’s Goal 9 Healthy Living to BUCC. Melissa Cheese seconded.

Julie Vandivere presented the proposal.

**Recommendations/Suggestions:**

- Q2, remove wording that says, “Honors students do not have access to GEP in Goal 2 and Goal 9.”
- Take justification paragraph after Table in item 11 and put it in Q2.
- Doc R, item 7 (prereqs) – add “or permission of the Honors program.”
- Item 9, remove word “Lecture” from heading
- At end of item 9, wording missing after “students will engage in...”
- Question on item 2 in SLO table – Is it needed? Vandivere will work with department and provide clarification.
- Question about item 9 in SLO table – Will students implement a research experiment? Vandivere will talk to department about whether they want to keep that wording.
- Item 14, Department Assessment Committee will be an honors program assessment committee.
- Item 14, add language that data will be provided to the office of planning & assessment.
- Course number should appear on rubric.

**Motion to recommend to BUCC passed by voice vote.**

4. GEC By-Laws

By-Laws were revised recently and signed by Interim Provost Krause February 2018. Since then, there has been some reorganization in Academic Affairs. The by-laws state that the committee will have one professional staff member from Academic Affairs. Mark Bauman is looking into some language that may better reflect our membership. Bob Heckrote is our professional staff member, but his division is Strategic Enrollment Management.

Angela La Valley stated that there is no wording for replacing a member who is temporarily unavailable to attend (medical leave, for example). Ben Franek suggested a general election to designate alternate members. He also suggested to have people run as an alternate. Angela La Valley stated that BUCC bylaws state that an alternate can be appointed by the chair, with the

approval of the committee. Committee members agreed to use wording from BUCC bylaws. Angela La Valley said that she will revise the by-laws and bring to the committee for further review. She also stated that she has not yet received a response from Student Affairs regarding a student member. Linda Neyer suggested adding to guidelines on website information about the Honors courses that was shared at the meeting. Ben Franek requested a hard copy booklet of the value rubrics.

5. GE Assessment Plan

Angela La Valley talked about the current assessment plan. There is a new task force being formed with the purpose of reviewing the current plan. She suggested that departments should continue to collect data but not submit it at this time. She checked with Sheila Dove-Jones, and she was okay with it and said it wouldn't create any issues with Middle States. She asked for thoughts from the committee. Do we want to continue to request that people send data, when we are having difficulty assessing data? Carolyn LaMacchia supported the suggestion. Bob Heckrote asked, if we collect data this year but don't do much with it, is that reducing the workload for OPA? Jerrold Harris said yes. The question is, do we want to keep doing something that's not working? Jerrold Harris suggested that we have a specific timeline to pause. Angela La Valley agreed and said that she was going to propose taking one year off from collecting data. Departments can continue to collect data if that's what they wish. Let campus know that we are evaluating the process. Johnson suggested giving the departments tips for evaluating data, and this would help program review.

Carolyn LaMacchia moved to suspend required submission of data for the 18-19 AY while we assess procedures. Linda Neyer seconded. Motion passed by voice vote with one abstention. Angela La Valley will take to John Riley and Jim Krause. It may need to be voted upon by BUCC.

6. GE Report Update – Angela La Valley said they are working on a report based on the data that they have. In some cases, departmental summary reports were not submitted. GE Report is in progress.
7. Chair Election – Linda Neyer nominated La Valley. Jerrold Harris seconded. Motion passed by voice vote with one abstention.
8. Chair Remarks – Angela La Valley was part of a team that attended a workshop on general education and assessment during the summer and came back with an action plan for a task force. The recommendation was for a task force that is partially appointed and partially elected. A charge will be forthcoming.  
BUCC is revising the Omnibus form, and some additional boxes under General Education may appear. Safa Saracoglu made a suggestion for Omnibus form changes, to make it clear whether a General Education change is new or a revision.  
PRP 3343 was circulated by email prior to this meeting. Time will not allow for discussion at this meeting. The policy included some wording about GEP's. A second reading of the revised PRP at BUCC was tabled for further discussion. Angela La Valley asked for feedback to be brought back to BUCC for their next discussion.
9. Open Forum – Please let Angela La Valley know by email if there should be an open forum meeting in October or November.

10. Adjournment – Melissa Cheese motioned to adjourn the meeting at 4:06 pm. Jerrold Harris seconded the motion.

## Minutes - General Education Council September 24, 2018

Angela La Valley called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm on Monday, September 24, 2018 in the Andruss Library Schweiker Room.

Members present: Angela La Valley (Chairperson), Sheila Dove-Jones, Mindi Miller, Janet Rarig, Melissa Cheese, Cherie Roberts, Mark Bauman, Jennifer Johnson, Bob Heckrote, Ben Franek, Jung Kim, Linda Neyer, Dina Clark, Brooke Lylo, Safa Saracoglu.

Guests: Aimee Wenta

1. Approval of the Agenda of September 24, 2018.  
Linda Neyer moved to approve the agenda. Sheila Dove-Jones seconded the motion.

**Motion to approve the agenda passed by voice vote unanimously.**

2. Approval of the Minutes of [September 10, 2018](#).  
Cherie Roberts moved to approve the minutes. Ben Franek seconded the motion.

**Motion to approve the minutes passed by voice vote with two abstention.**

3. GE Data Reports/Analysis  
Aimee Wenta presented the findings of the GEC reports, which can be viewed here:  
[S:\BU Documents\General Education Council\2018-2019\September 24, 2018\An Exploration of MyCore Distribution Trends Across BU Colleges\\_final 9-24-18.pdf](S:\BU Documents\General Education Council\2018-2019\September 24, 2018\An Exploration of MyCore Distribution Trends Across BU Colleges_final 9-24-18.pdf)  
<S:\BU Documents\General Education Council\2018-2019\September 24, 2018\Fall 2018 GEC Presentation GE Data Reports 9-24-18.pdf>  
<S:\BU Documents\General Education Council\2018-2019\September 24, 2018\GE Trends for P2P Students & Associate Degree Transfer Students 2-7-18 UPDATED 7-13-18.pdf>  
<S:\BU Documents\General Education Council\2018-2019\September 24, 2018\General Education Department Frequency Distribution 3-20-18.pdf>  
[S:\BU Documents\General Education Council\2018-2019\September 24, 2018\MyCore Completion Report 7-27-18\\_final.pdf](S:\BU Documents\General Education Council\2018-2019\September 24, 2018\MyCore Completion Report 7-27-18_final.pdf)

The report looked at which GEC courses are transferred by Program-to-Program (P2P) students compared to other transfer students with associate degrees. P2P students have a modified MyCore program. They transfer in with 30 GEPs and have to get 10 additional GEPs. Transfer courses also transfer GEPs to count for the additional 10 GEPs.

Transfer course criteria (excluded courses from alternate sources, like CLEP, credit by exam)  
Are MyCore grads receiving similar exposure of study compared to old Gen Ed program? The target population was students who were admitted after summer 2007 and graduated in spring 2008 and fall 2017 (including freshman and transfer students).

- MyCore vs old GE program – found that most students were getting similar exposure to different departments when comparing the old and new systems. Both had a mean of 17 different departments.

When are students completing the MyCore requirements?

- Majority of non-transfer students completed at junior or senior level
- The same trend for P2P students

## Minutes - General Education Council October 8, 2018

Angela La Valley called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm on Monday, October 8, 2018 in the Andruss Library Schweiker Room.

Members present: Angela La Valley (Chairperson), Ben Franek, Jennifer Johnson, Peggy Shipley (proxy for Mindi Miller), Linda Neyer, Brooke Lylo, Safa Saracoglu, Bob Heckrote, Mark Bauman, Cherie Roberts, Jerrold Harris (proxy for Sheila Jones), Carolyn LaMacchia, Loren Selznick, Melissa Cheese.

Guests:

1. Approval of the Agenda of September 24, 2018.  
Jerrold Harris moved to approve the agenda. Melissa Cheese seconded the motion.

**Motion to approve the agenda passed by voice vote unanimously.**

2. Approval of the Minutes of [September 24, 2018](#).  
Carolyn LaMacchia moved to approve the minutes. Bob Heckrote seconded the motion.

**Motion to approve the minutes passed by voice vote with two abstention.**

3. GE Assessment Plan

Discussion of assessment plan, continued from last meeting. Angela asked for additional thoughts.

- One of the options was to continue to collect data as we have been.
- Do we want to collect data in a way that's different from what we have been doing?
- Angela stated that she has been reflecting on whether we should continue to collect data. There was concern expressed that if we deviate from the plan, there could be trouble with Middle States. She had a discussion with Sheila Jones and the reviewer for the 5-year review for OPA. She has been on middle states teams, and her take was that if we have a narrative explaining what we've been doing, reflections on it, and we have a plan, we could differ and middle states would be pleased that we are analyzing and identifying problem areas, and developing a plan for the future.
- Angela said we don't have a clear sense of target or what the question is that we're trying to answer. As we look at data and make recommendations, we need clearly identified what general education is and what we want it to accomplish.
- Angela said that one of the suggestions made at meeting with OPA assessment reviewer was a plan to look at the data and review the plan.
- Discussion of the roles of General Education Council and the assessment task force.
- Discussion of setting a timetable for assessment.
- We made a recommendation to change what we've been doing. There were some concerns discussed at the last meeting. Do we want to continue collecting rubric data, or can we come up with a plan? In the absence of a task force, we would make recommendations to BUCC regarding assessment. With the task force, our recommendations would go to the task force.
- Linda Neyer stated that we don't have clearly defined goals.
- Suggestion to gather data from a random sample of incoming freshman students.
- For some programs, the value rubrics are working. For others, they are not.

- NSSE exit survey was suggested. Use a small sample of senior class.
- Example in Psychology – Students take a Psych ETS test and an exit survey. They don't assess individual courses because students can take different courses and get a degree.
- Suggestion to look at other state system general education programs, such as Kutztown. It was stated that Middle States was happy with their general education program. Suggestion to ask the task force to look at other programs and assessment plans.
- General agreement to revise assessment plan, ask departments to identify if the value rubrics are working. Perhaps they can be optional.

Angela will write a draft of suggestions.

4. GE Report Update – Angela is hoping to have a draft by the next meeting. The report would go out to the campus community.

#### 5. Chair Remarks

Joe Kissell and Angela discussed PRP 3612. The policy states that a course cannot have more GEPs than credits. There are some 0-credit courses with GEPs. Some revisions of the PRP might be needed. PRP states that courses will not be retroactive, but in practice the Registrar's office have been making everything retroactive. This can be discussed at the next meeting.

Recommendations regarding process for Honors program courses and changed bylaws were submitted to BUCC. The next BUCC meeting is an open meeting, so those items will not be on the agenda until November.

6. Open Forum – Open meeting will be November 5, 2018.
7. Adjournment – Bob Heckrote/Linda Neyer motion to adjourn at 4:07 pm.

Angela La Valley, Chairperson, GEC



- Transfer students have a slightly higher proportion of senior-level completion

Are students venturing outside of their major and college to complete the MyCore requirements?

- Majority of non-transfer students are taking courses from 3 or 4 colleges.
- For transfer students, the trend is the same.

Bob Heckrote said that in a previous open forum meeting, there was concern expressed that students would take most courses within their major or college, but this data seems to contradict that. Mindi Miller thanked OPA and Angela for working on this. She gave an example for Nursing, and she said they look at the breadth of courses/departments that they can take. She asked if they got a feel for it being department dominant, even though there was a wide breadth? Aimee said that not every department within COST will have the same trend. She said it's something that they could look into, but they want to be mindful of not calling out any specific depts. Angela said that there are some reports pending where they looked at majors. Aimee said they are looking at program of study sheets, but they don't show what students are actually taking. She said they can break down college frequency report by department, but there was conversation of not wanting to call out a department. Mindi also mentioned – there has been discussion about general education during senior year. There is a mindset that Gen Ed courses have to be completed early. Some think that some goals (citizenship and languages, for example) take time to understand. She said it's a campus wide discussion that needs to happen. Why are some goals being completed early and some later? Is it a logistical issue or a scheduling issue?

Linda stated that the purpose of Gen Ed is the breadth of experience. General Education needs to be defined. She found it interesting that while a lot of students get communication goals early on, a little more than half completely satisfied the goal. Angela said that in order to pass the transfer policy, they pulled the P2P language entirely. They will either go over it later or create a new policy.

Mindi expressed her hope that discussion will open up about equity. Many on campus still feel that language needs to be assessed. There needs to be an open discussion about whether we want students to learn a second language. Also, we need a conceptual framework or vision campus-wide that maybe there is a purpose to finishing in the senior year. Recently she had an advisee who wanted to take a particular goal in her senior year because it was easier.

Bob commented that COE students were finishing goals a little earlier. Brooke Lylo said that half of their senior year is devoted to student teaching, so they encourage students to finish Gen Ed courses earlier.

Linda asked how to disseminate this information. She suggested using FAQs to categorize the information. There was discussion of having the information available to people who can log in with BU credentials. Also suggestion of presenting to department chairs and forum. Suggestion of moving conclusion to the start of the report as a summary.

Sheila Dove-Jones said the vision was that there would be one spot to have everything stored. They are looking at a convention of naming files so that they are grouped together, so that they can be all in one place but sorted.

Angela thanked Aimee for her work on the reports. Aimee said that one of the other reports they are working on are Gen Ed courses with high fail rates and withdraw rates.

#### 4. GE Assessment Plan

We had been working on a draft memo regarding the assessment plan. Mark Bauman shared with John Riley and Jim Krause. Angela La Valley had an informal conversation with Mark and Jim after BUCC on Wednesday, and Jim's response was that we cannot pause reporting of data because of the upcoming Middle States visit. Mark said that they understood the concerns, but the timing was a concern. It puts a spotlight right on it, if we pause at this time without a plan. There is willingness to have that conversation after the Middle States visit.

Angela said we need some sort of plan until Middle States visit. We have an option of continuing to collect data as we have been doing. Option to come up with an alternative collection of data that we can do in the interim. Her personal feeling is that she doesn't want to continue to do something that isn't useful just because we don't have anything else to do in the interim. She is open to thoughts on this matter.

Safa Saracoglu asked if changing the information collected or method of collection would raise a red flag? Sheila said she didn't think it would. She suggested that we ask a department to collect data in a way that is specific to the class or department and useful to them. We know that rubrics are not working. Let's ask departments to figure out what works for their department. Assessment isn't stopping or pausing. We're asking people to identify a way to make it more useful. Safa asked for clarification. His understanding that the current assessment rubrics had to be approved at the college and BUCC level. Will new collection methods have to be approved in the same way? Sheila said that departments know their courses better than anyone else. The departments are reporting that the data is not useful to them. Safa asked what is the value from a statistical standpoint of different types of data collection? Sheila said it doesn't matter. It's more valuable to be able to tell whether your students are learning what you want them to learn. Safa said that the rubrics provide some level of consistency. Jennifer Johnson said that consistency without validity is not helpful. Safa asked if validity without consistency is helpful. She said yes. Angela said the problem is when we look at anything above the course level. All courses are using different rubrics, so there was no consistency. There was no way to combine all rubrics. We are consistent at the course level, but not at the Gen Ed level. That's contrary to the contract, which states that it's the responsibility of the department to assess at the course level.

Mindi asked what insights were gained from the AACNU conference. Angela said she learned that the data isn't even useful at the department level, for some departments. We saw two models that people were using. Some departments were using the same rubric for a certain goal. Consistency in rubrics. Other programs were saying use whatever rubrics work for you, but it was translated into a general rubric that would be consistent. In other departments, students used portfolios. Bob asked do we have consensus on what the question is that we're trying to answer. What is the question? Are the students getting a general education? Is the general education system working? Mindi said that's what we're working on. Discussion. Are SLOs the key? Discussion of having a committee of people evaluating artifacts and applying them to a standard rubric. Angela said the committee discussed this as part of the assessment plan but ultimately rejected it, because the committee members aren't experts in the subject matter.

Angela asked if we want to continue the plan or think more about changing it. Mindi asked if we can ask departments to look at the artifacts and submit a GESAR (General Education Summary Assessment Report) form. There was a suggestion of using a modified summary report.

There were some goals where submission of summaries were at 50%. Not every department reported.

Linda asked, do we need to define the questions that we want to answer? What is it that we want to know?

Sheila offered a historical perspective. She was told in 2008 that she needed to do value-added assessment, which was ETS proficiency. It tested written language, critical thinking, and maybe reading. There were a few questions on social sciences. It didn't work well because they couldn't get a representative example of seniors. The issue is, are we making a difference in student ability in what we deem important? She argued that ten goals is too many. Some universities are going back to the pre and post testing. There has to be faculty commitment. It's very costly, but it can be done. Some would say that that instrument is not assessing your curriculum. It's assessing critical thinking from a national perspective. There is one on analytical quantitative reasoning, another on information literacy. It would be another way of doing it. It would give you context to where our students compare with everyone else in the nation. We stopped doing it because we couldn't get faculty to help us get students to take it. ETS proficiency profile is an old test that is no longer available. There is a new test that is more useful. There would have to be agreement from departments to require it.

Mark said that e-portfolios are growing in popularity. He said that if it's required, we can take a representative sample and assess them. Jennifer asked how that can be applied to Psychology, where there may not be artifacts like papers and presentations. Aimee said that there is a reflective component. Melissa said that she uses e-portfolios, and she explained reflective components. Safa asked how we would get students to participate in e-portfolios for classes that aren't part of their major.

Angela said that further discussion is needed. Linda asked that the GESAR report be sent to committee members. Angela asked members to think about the options for further discussion at the next meeting. She said to feel free to ask within your departments or other departments in your college.

#### 5. GEC By-Laws

Angela shared some edits to the bylaws in the area of membership. She added SEM to include more areas from which members can be selected. She also added wording about filling temporarily vacant positions. She asked committee members to look at the edited document and provide comments. Mindi moved to recommend to BUCC the revised document, seconded by Jennifer. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

#### 6. GEC Report Update

Angela asked if we want to see data presented by Aimee added to the report. The committee members agreed that they would. It will be sent to committee members before being shared with anyone else.

7. Chair Remarks

Task force is still in the works. There will be some appointed members and some elected. An election will have to take place. They are working on logistics before an official charge is created. They have a sense of who will be appointed.

Angela stated that in the last meeting, Julie Vandivere commented that honors courses that duplicate existing Gen Ed courses will not need to go to GEC. Honors English 101 was named as an example. It was suggested that if it's an honors course that's duplicating an existing GE approved course, it could be checked by the General Education chair, instead of going to the GEC, before going to BUCC. If it looks identical, with the exception of the honors components, it would be signed by the chair before going to BUCC.

Linda Neyer moved that those proposals have to come to the GEC Chair to check, seconded by Melissa Cheese. Motion passed by voice vote with one abstention. Angela will have a conversation with Julie and John Riley.

Is there a need for an open meeting? Oct 22 and Nov 5 are options for open meeting. Linda suggested November 5, and there was agreement among members.

8. Open Forum

9. Adjournment – Bob Heckrote/Linda Neyer motion to adjourn at 4:07 pm.

Angela La Valley, Chairperson, GEC

Minutes – General Education Council – October 22, 2018

Present: A. La Valley (Chairperson), B. Lylo (also proxy for C. Roberts), B. Franek, L. Neyer, M. Cheese, M. Miller, J. Rarig, J. Kim, J. Johnson, M. Bauman, C. LaMacchia, S. Saracoglu, D. Clark, A. Wenta (on behalf of S. Dove-Jones), L. Selznick.

Guest: W. Hudon

1. Call to order – Angela La Valley called the meeting to order at 2:07 pm.
2. Approval of agenda  
Mindi Miller motioned to approve the agenda. Linda Neyer seconded the motion.

**Motion to approve the agenda passed by voice vote unanimously.**

3. Approval of the minutes of [October 8, 2018](#)  
Linda Neyer moved to approve the minutes. Carolyn LaMacchia seconded the motion. Mindi asked for a correction – The sixth bullet point under item 3 should read “General Education Council.” There was a clarification on the third bullet point on page two: Aimee Wenta clarified that Kutztown University was mentioned specifically because they were praised by Middle States for their general education program. There was also a correction to the spelling of Safa’s name.

**Motion to approve the minutes passed with nine yes votes and three abstentions.**

4. Proposals
  - i. [History 213](#) – Religion and Violence for 1 GEP in Goal 4 Cultures and Diversity, and 2 GEPs in Goal 7 Arts and Humanities  
Safa motioned to recommend History 213-Religion and Violence for 1 GEP in Goal 4 Cultures and Diversity and 2 GEPs in Goal 7 Arts and Humanities. Melissa Cheese seconded the motion.

Bill Hudon presented on the proposal.

**Recommendations/Suggestions:**

- In #10 methods, use the term “distance education” instead of on-line.
- After #11 student learning objectives, include justification for GEPs.
- Safa asked why the department did not consider offering GEPs for critical thinking under Goal 3 Analytical and Quantitative Skills. Angela stated that critical thinking doesn’t have a distinct “home” in our general education goals, and the closest is Goal 3 Analytical and Quantitative Skills. Bill said that at the time when he wrote the proposal last spring, there were not as many offerings in Goal 7 than there are in Goal 3. Angela said that there are a number of courses on campus where they could have a number of different GEPs, and it’s the department’s decision. Safa suggested that this may be a topic for the task force to discuss.
- In item #14 Course Assessment, add wording “collect and report data to the Office of Planning and Assessment, as requested by GEC.”

- Rubrics – Item 4 in critical thinking rubric – the SLO language differs slightly from the syllabus wording. In #3 on intercultural knowledge, wording differs slightly.
- Linda thanked Bill for consulting with the library concerning additional resources needed.

**Motion to recommend to BUCC with revisions passed by voice vote unanimously.**

- Safa asked is it the job of the GEC or the college curriculum committee to make sure that the SLOs listed in the syllabus match the rubrics. Angela said that she can write up guidelines for college curriculum committees, advising them to make sure the wording is consistent in the two areas.

**5. PRP 3612**

- Page 3 states the maximum number of GEPs for a course is equal to the number of credits for that course. This wording implies that a 0-credit course cannot have GEPs. Angela asked if we want to add wording “except in the case of a 0-credit course.” Brooke Lylo suggested adding, “For credit-bearing courses,” to the beginning of the sentence. Safa asked why the limit exists as it does. Is there a relationship that has been previously established? Bob Heckrote said his CLE has 2 GEPs, so he wouldn’t say there is a relationship in terms of a specific equation. The rule exists so there isn’t (what’s the word? Abuse?). Suggestion to use contact hours equation instead of credits. The equation is something like 40 contact hours for one credit. Bob suggested adding to second bullet stating ‘we recommend formula of 40 hours = 1 credit.’ Discussion of the equation for in-class. Suggestion: “For credit-bearing courses,” added to first sentence. Then at the end, “for non-credit bearing courses, formula based on PRP 3603.”
- “GEPs for a course or CLE are not retroactively assigned...” This is not done in practice. All courses have been retroactively awarding GEPs. Mindi said this was discussed for a long time, and it was agreed that it would not be practical, but it was what we wanted. Linda asked if there were negative consequences to retroactively awarding GEPs? Mark Bauman felt that we’re too far down the road to go back and try to tighten the reins. He also expressed a concern about having something in writing that we aren’t doing. For courses that change GEPs, it can be changed. But the issue is with courses that did not previously have GEPs. Linda motioned to remove the bullet concerning retroactive, seconded by Mindi. Brooke suggested going back to the old language stating they are retroactive. She said if the course changes a lot in order to award GEPs, then maybe it should be a different course number. Linda motioned to amend her motion to change the bullet point to be retroactive, and Mindi seconded. Brooke suggested spelling it out in more detail: for courses adding GEPs, points will be retroactive. Existing courses requesting GEPs that are not making substantial changes to the SLOs will be awarded retroactively. For courses making substantial changes, GEC will recommend using a different course number. The committee wants to be more accepting on transfer students’ credits. Motion passed unanimously. Angela will work on wording and bring back to a future meeting for approval.
- Transferring in higher level language courses. Possible solution to add language that students who transfer in a level 3 language or higher will be awarded the second language points as if they had taken the language placement test. Angela wanted to add to bullet point three wording for transfer students. Question about if this works the same for ASL. Angela said there is no placement test for ASL. She said she would check with the department to see if there would be a situation where a student would transfer ASL 2 or 3 without transferring ASL 1.
- Angela will work on language changes and bring back to a future meeting for approval.

6. GE Assessment Plan

- i. Angela shared a draft of a memo to Dr. Krause, based on our last meeting, of things that we want to pilot.
  - ii. Safa commented on item 2, line one. He suggested changing wording from “ask” to “invited.”
  - iii. Jennifer asked why first-year students are selected. Angela stated that they will be selected and then tracked through to the end of their programs. Jennifer suggested making it clearer that they will be tracked and assessed again at the senior level.
  - iv. Carolyn asked if students will hand in artifacts or faculty in item 1. Angela said it would be faculty. We would send an email asking for data. Carolyn said after students are identified, there should be a process to identify the courses they are taking and contact the faculty to keep them aware. Safa asked if having the faculty submit assignments, would it be violating the rights of the students. Do we need to get clearance for the assignments to be used in that way? Mindi said you don’t need permission when it’s quality improvement, but they should be made aware that it’s being done. She said that they worked on getting something in admissions packet or something they click on to acknowledge that they are aware of this data collection.
  - v. Safa suggested getting OPA involved in item one, because they will be involved in this.
  - vi. Loren Selznick said it’s not clear to her why we are collecting these artifacts. Jennifer asked what kind of report we are expecting to get from this data collection. Brooke said that we can see if they are achieving skills at level 3 or 4 (from the value rubrics). She would expect to see each student’s score in each area of each rubric.
  - vii. Linda asked if we want to identify targets for each area.
  - viii. Mindi mentioned that we have talked at a program level about information literacy and what’s required of students at the sophomore level. We have courses with GEPs across sophomore, junior, and senior level.
  - ix. Discussion of assessing students versus assessing courses. Jennifer stated that APA guidelines have assessment tools. Concern expressed on the low turnout of seniors taking exit assessments. Carolyn said that some assessments for seniors may look good on a resume. Mindi said that nursing has assessment tools. She said a lot of that information may be able to be used for general education assessment. Safa said he thinks putting emphasis on departments and courses is not as valuable as students, for our purposes.
  - x. Suggestion to measure exposure to goal areas.
7. GE Report – Report is very close to completion. It looks at rubric data and trends.
8. GE Task Force Update – There was an email from the Provost’s office asking for nominations for the elected positions in the task force. If any council members are interested in joining the task force, they can follow instructions on that email.
9. Next meeting is open meeting. She received one email suggesting that we talk about assessment. Please send suggestions to Angela.
10. Adjournment - Loren/Linda motion to adjourn at 4:00 pm.

## General Education Council November 5, 2018

The meeting of the General Education Council will be called to order at 2:00 PM on Monday, November 5, 2018 in the Andruss Library Schweiker room.

### **Minutes – Approved 11/19/18**

Members present: A. La Valley (Chairperson), C. LaMacchia, L. Neyer, C. Roberts, C. Droll, S. Saracoglu, M. Bauman, B. Heckrote, P. Shipley, Ben Franek, J. Rarig, B. Lylo, D. Clark, Jung Kim

Guests: T. Entzminger, C. Droll, M. McFarland, M. Wood, H. Ulmer, M. Fuhrman

1. Call to Order – Angela La Valley called the meeting to order at 2:03 pm.
2. Approval of the Agenda of November 5, 2018. Linda Neyer motioned to approve the agenda. Carolyn LaMacchia second.

**Motion to approve the agenda passed unanimously.**

### 3. Discussion

- a. MyCore Assessment – Marianna Wood said the current assessment plan for general education doesn't seem to be working. Summary assessment reports are not saying anything or not being sent at all. There was a hope that the value rubrics would work well, but they are not. She wants to know if GEC is continuing to ask for assessment that is not working.

Angela La Valley said we are currently working on adjustments to the plan. We're figuring out what it will look like. We want to look at some existing data sources that we have, as well as modifying data collection. There will be some changes in the near future.

Linda added that we have been discussing it a lot. She was curious for input from Marianna, some concrete suggestions. Marianna said what she doesn't want to see happen is for GEC to have an idea about where we're going and not communicate it, or to ask departments to keep doing it while they figure it out.

Ben Franek stated that we've been working on that this semester. We suggested to put a pause on collection, but we have to have something going on. Angela said there was some concern that taking a break from assessment while middle states is here could be potentially problematic. We've been taking this semester to come up with a plan that can be communicated to the campus community, once it's in place. Hopefully we can nail it down by the end of this semester.

Marianna said that she took from the minutes that we were going to take a pause.

Angela said it's a recommendation. GEC makes recommendations to BUCC, which makes recommendations to the Provost. What we've been doing is not productive, in terms of assessing general education as a whole, and also in terms of morale.

Discussion of task force.

Mark Bauman said that Interim Provost Krause is in support of adjustments to assessment plan.

Linda asked about timeline – Do we have a timeline of data that needs to be collected this semester? Angela said we didn't send out an email advising folks that we would be collecting data.



Safa Saracoglu indicated that there will be a focus on assessing students and tracking student progress, rather than courses.

- b. Goal 8 – Second Language – Heather Ulmer is a part-time ESL supervisor. Previously, international students were supported by the Speech and Hearing clinic. Discussion of PRP 3612, specifically page three pertaining to non-native English speaking students. She couldn't find any other PASSHE school that made students take an English proficiency exam to earn credits for a second language.
- Distinguish between two groups of students: those born in U.S. who speak another language fluently, and international students who come here having English as a second language. Heather asked that wording regarding ESOL institute be removed from the policy, because the institute doesn't exist anymore. Angela said this part of the policy was an attempt to put something in place to give international students credit for English as a second language, so that they don't have to take a third language. Angela said we can consider at a future meeting whether the testing to be admitted (TOEFL) can be proof enough.
- Angela said we are missing a group of students who are native speakers and also fluent in a language that we cannot test. Example of a student who is fluent in Polish.
- Ben mentioned the possibility of pooling people from PASSHE who could help in this area. Safa said there are online institutions where students can be certified. A lot of them have a fee. If it involves a fee, does that put an unfair burden on the student?
- Heather suggested duo lingo is an online learning platform. They have a low cost alternative for international students to take an assessment test in English. They are developing other languages as well.
- Currently, students are advised to request a waiver of that goal.
- LaMacchia asked if a student has goal 8 waived due to a learning disability, for example, does that add anything on to another goal? Angela said that language was developed at one point, but perhaps it didn't make it onto the policy. She will look into it.

4. Open Forum

Linda asked about the election for the task force. Angela said voting is this Thursday and Friday. It's happening along with election for search committees for the dean searches.

Marianna asked if GEC is going to put out a report. Angela said the report is in its final stages. They got some information from the Office of Planning and Assessment about data regarding classes taken. Hopefully it will be out by the start of next semester, along with a revised assessment plan.

5. Adjournment – Carolyn LaMacchia motioned to adjourn. Janet Rarig seconded.

**Meeting was adjourned at 2:43 pm.**

## Minutes - General Education Council November 19, 2018

The meeting of the General Education Council will be called to order at 2:00 PM on Monday, November 19, 2018 in KUB 230

**Members present:** A. La Valley (Chairperson), B. Franek, C. LaMacchia, J. Johnson, M. Cheese, B. Lylo, L. Selznick, B. Heckrote, J. Rarig, C. Roberts, S. Saracoglu, J. Harris (on behalf of S. Dove-Jones), L. Neyer

Guests: Erin Brummett, David Heineman, Aimee Wenta.

1. Call to Order – A. LaValley called the meeting to order at 2:05 pm.
2. Approval of the Agenda of November 19, 2018. – Janet Rarig motioned to approve the agenda. Loren Selznick seconded.

**Motion to approve the agenda passed unanimously.**

3. Approval of the Minutes of [October 22, 2018](#) & [November 5, 2018](#). Melissa Cheese motioned to approve the minutes of 10/22/18. Brooke Lylo seconded. Jennifer Johnson motioned to approve the minutes of 11/5/18 with some minor corrections. Bob Heckrote seconded.

**Motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously.**

#### 4. Course Proposals

- a. [COMMSTUD 314](#) Communicating Identity & Difference for 1 GEP in Goal 1 and 2 GEPs in Goal 4

Bob Heckrote made a motion to recommend COMMSTUD 314 Communicating Identity & Difference for 1 GEP in Goal 1 Communication and 2 GEPs in Goal 4 Cultures and Diversity to BUCC. Carolyn LaMacchia seconded the motion.

David Heineman and Erin Brummett presented on the course.

#### **Recommendations/Suggestions:**

In short title, add “with GEPs.”

Box 4 Documentation – uncheck box V (Program Course Checklists)

Q-2 course title includes “Identity” and not “Identify.”

In paragraph after learning objectives, justification for GEPs should be more clearly stated.

Item 14 – standard language about assessment data being provided to OPA at the request of GEC.

Wording for student learning objectives 1 and 5 does not match wording in rubrics.

Suggestion to make sure that both match.

Consistency in font sizes

**Motion to recommend to BUCC with suggested corrections passed unanimously.**

5. [PRP 3612](#) – Angela presented proposed changes to PRP 3612, based on discussion at previous meetings.

Bob asked if it would be appropriate to discuss in this meeting whether students who had three levels of a second language can get credit for goal 8. Justification is that students who get English 101 as a transfer credit. Brooke said that students can take a language placement test. Under GEP Equivalent Credit, CASAS assessment levels were adjusted to intermediate level, rather than advanced. Loren suggested to change wording from “may” to “will” receive 2 GEPs for Goal 8 Second Language. Suggestion to indicate that they have two options. They can also take a foreign language course if they wish.

Suggestion to make a recommendation to the task force to take a look at Goal 8.

Discussion of taking CASAS versus TOEFL.

Linda Neyer motioned to recommend the proposed changes to BUCC. Cherie seconded.

**Motion to forward with recommended changes passed unanimously.**

6. MyCore Assessment Plan

Last meeting, Angela circulated a grid of different assessment methods to be attached to memo to Dr. Krause. Discussion of assessment. Safa Saracoglu suggested getting rid of rubrics. Linda said we missed a step which is norming of the rubric stage. We haven’t done that across campus. Safa suggested to identify what elements are most common in each course and ask departments to provide data from those elements. Discussion of first destination survey. Angela said it’s not a direct measure.

Loren Selznick said she has a problem with us saying we’re going to change what we’re doing while the task force is looking at general education. The whole system could change fairly soon.

Linda suggested having more discussions about the general education goals.

Ben Franek felt that the goals have different meanings to different departments. Do the rubrics address the goals equally?

For a particular goal, what particular elements are being used across departments?

Loren said that some goals are harder to measure, like exposure to sciences. She suggested that we could get someone from each department to meet and determine what it is that we want them to know, like the scientific method for example, and then approach assessment from that.

Linda said some goals are more like a requirement than a general education goal.

Angela said at this point in the semester, it’s too late to ask for data from departments.

Discussion of reports prepared by OPA.

7. Chair Remarks – Angela said the history course that we looked at recently was forwarded to the provost from BUCC. There was a discussion about why those goals, but ultimately it was passed.

There was supposed to be a runoff for the non-aligned faculty to the task force. The task force has been formed, and Dr. Krause is going to send out a charge. Loren and Angela are on the task force. There will be communication between this committee and the task force.

8. Open Forum

Carolyn asked about alternatives for goal 8. 211 and 212 classes are hardly ever offered.

Angela said that it will be left to the advisor to request a waiver or substitution.

9. Adjournment – Linda motioned to adjourn. Janet seconded.

**Meeting was adjourned at 4:04 pm**

Dr. Angela La Valley, Chairperson, GEC

## MINUTES

The meeting of the General Education Council was called to order at 2:30 PM on Monday, February 18, 2019 in the Andruss Library Schweiker room.

**Present:** A. La Valley (Chairperson), M. Bauman, B. Franek, L. Neyer, M. Miller, L. Selznick, C. LaMacchia, J. Rarig, M. Cheese, J. Johnson, B. Lylo. B. Heckrote, C., Roberts, J. Seek Kim, J. Harris (for Sheila Dove Jones), S. Saracoglu.

Guests: Vince Hron, James Dunlap.

1. Call to Order – A. La Valley called the meeting to order at 2:30 pm.
2. Approval of the Agenda of February 18, 2019 – Carolyn LaMacchia motioned to approve the agenda. Loren Selznick seconded.

**Motion to approve the agenda passed unanimously.**

3. Approval of the Minutes of [February 4, 2019](#). – Cherie Roberts motioned to approve the minutes of 2/4/19. Janet Rarig seconded.

**Motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously.**

4. Course Proposals
  - a. [ARTSTUDIO 295](#) Introductory Graphic Design for 1 GEP in Goal 1: Communication, 1 GEP for Goal 2: Information Literacy, and 1 GEPs for Goal 7: Arts & Humanities (Content Revision to existing MyCore course)

Safa Saracoglu made a motion to bring the proposal for ARTHSTRY 295 to the floor for review. Bob Heckrote seconded.

Drs. Hron and Dunlap presented on the course. The department is seeking to modify the title, catalog description, and content outline for the existing ARTHSTRY 295. General Education points will not change.

### **Recommendations/Suggestions:**

Boxes 4 and 4b need to be checked on document P.

Concern was raised about the signature of Dr. Krause on the document before it was reviewed and approved by the GEC.

Linda Neyer suggested adding the phrase “at the request of the GEC” to the end of #14 on document R. The sentence should read- “Collected data will be transmitted to the university Office of Planning and Assessment at the request of the GEC.”

**Motion to recommend to BUCC with suggested corrections passed unanimously.**

5. GE Report Draft – Angela provided an update that the draft reports on how students are fulfilling their general education points. Reports on common courses that are taken by specific majors will have to come from departments.

6. MyCore Assessment Plan

Angela sent a list of what assessments we currently have available. Jennifer Johnson raised a concern about the wording of one of the questions on the previous survey. The question did not specifically state that answers should be about students' general education experience. This was listed in the category header, but not in the question. Jerald Harris clarified that this has been corrected on the current survey.

Angela asked if there are question the committee has about the general education system that are not answered by what is currently in process. Mindi Miller raised the concern that we have not been able to articulate well how to assess GE data at the university or campus level. She believes GE assessment can be done to some extent at the department level. Angela said that suggestions may need to be made on what doesn't work. Ben Franek asked if we have ever defined what GE should be. Loren argued that some of the assessment issues stem from some goals being skill based, and the fact that other goals are in place to ensure that student's level well rounded. She also said that we are not able to define what we are trying to measure with the assessments in place. Mindi stated that GE goal assessment schedule isn't conducive to identifying trends (although some departments voluntarily gather data every semester); if more consistent data is gathered, then dashboards could be used to chart changes and improvement opportunities over time—if the assessment artifacts a line with VALUE Rubric elements. We need to have something to look at data related similar goals across campus—we can't do much with what we currently have. Carolyn LaMacchia believes that general education is integrated within programs and majors. We should be looking at measuring “well roundedness” by looking into classes outside of a student's major—quality of classes should be measured by department. Ben asked if it would be better to measure how general education is realized longer after graduation than we currently do. Angela stated that there is a sense that further focus groups with students are not needed; we can come up with what we want general education to look like by using the current tools.

7. Chair Remarks – Angela said that bylaws and minor PRP revision will at the next BUCC meeting.

8. Open Forum  
None

9. Adjournment – Carolyn motioned to adjourn. Loren seconded.

**Meeting was adjourned at 4:06 pm.**

Dr. Angela La Valley, Chairperson, GEC

## MINUTES

The meeting of the General Education Council was called to order at 2:00 PM on Monday, March 4, 2019 in the Andruss Library Schweiker room.

**Present:** A. La Valley (Chairperson), M. Bauman, B. Franek, L. Neyer, M. Miller, L. Selznick, C. LaMacchia, J. Rarig, M. Cheese, J. Johnson, B. Lylo. B. Heckrote, C., Roberts, J. Seek Kim, J. Harris Sheila Dove Jones, S. Saracoglu.

Guest: Noah Wasielewski

1. Call to Order – A. La Valley called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm.
2. Approval of the Agenda of February 4, 2019 – Linda Neyer motioned to approve the agenda. Loren Selznick seconded.

**Motion to approve the agenda passed unanimously.**

3. Approval of the Minutes of [February 18, 2019](#). – Melissa Cheese motioned to approve the minutes of 2/18/2019. Carolyn LaMacchia seconded. Mindi Miller proposed changes in the language under item 5.

**Motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously.**

### 4. Course Proposals

- a. [EXERSCI 226](#) Jogging and Walking for 2 GEPs in Goal 9: Healthy Living (Content, credit hour, and GEP revision/addition to existing MyCore course)

Linda Neyer motioned to recommend to package EXERSCI 226 and EXERSCI 230 and send to BUCC. Mindi Miller seconded the motion.

- b. [EXERSCI 230](#) Weight Training and Fitness for 2 GEPs in Goal 9: Healthy Living (Content, credit hour, and GEP revision/addition to existing MyCore course)

Dr. Wasielewski presented on the courses. These courses are currently being taught with one credit and one GEP. The department would like to adjust the courses to be two credit, two GEP, and run for the entire semester. The half semester courses do not allow students to solidify the behavior of exercising over time. Additional content has been added to the courses.

### **Recommendations/Suggestions:**

EXERSCI 226- Document Q should have old and new title because of title change.

EXERSCI 226- #13 PRP on the Final Exam Policy should be 3516.

#14 on both courses should contain the statement "...as requested by the General Education Council".

**Motion to recommend both courses to BUCC with suggested corrections passed unanimously.**

5. GE Report Draft – Angela sent the report to the committee so the committee can start reading through it in order to be prepared for a more in depth discussion when meetings resume after spring break. It largely reports on distribution of courses, what courses students are taking most frequently, any connections to Middle States standards, and contains recommendations. Shelia asked if a bullet pointed executive summary will be prepared in order to show the key findings of the assessment and to help dispel some popular myths about general education at Bloomsburg University. Shelia said that this report can serve as a benchmark as the committee moves forward—this report should be the baseline for what did work and what didn't work moving forward. Angela asked if the committee wanted to summarize the data from other reports that has been collected, or link to the other assessments within this report. Safa suggested that the recommendations about the VALUE rubrics within the document need to be consistent throughout the document. Loren added that one of the items in the recommendations could be questions the committee still has, and was unable to capture with the data collected. Shelia was concerned that Middle States will be on campus in three weeks, and the committee does not have a report to present to Middle States, and we said we would have it at this time. She suggested that the report be honest—Middle States knows that general education programs are not perfect. The committee has done good work, and the Gen Ed Task Force will be looked upon favorably, but we need something in writing (and cleaned up and well written) to present to Middle States. Angela asked the committee to sit down and look at the report in order to have more to discuss about the changes that need to be made at the March 18<sup>th</sup> meeting.
6. MyCore Assessment Plan—Angela noted that we have had discussions about shifting the Assessment Plan away from the VALUE Rubrics. The committee may need to break up into smaller groups to assessment review things like NSSE, the Global Perspectives Inventory, and other data that has been collected. After Spring Break the committee will work to split up into groups and look at (and break down) other sources of data.
7. Chair Remarks – Angela said reported that PRP 3612 and bylaw revisions that were submitted to BUCC were not reviewed at BUCC's latest meeting. They were inadvertently labeled as first readings, rather than second readings. The PRP and bylaw revisions are on the agenda for BUCC's 4/3 meeting.
8. Open Forum  
As one of the campaign ambassadors, Mindi asked that the committee members consider donating and reminding colleagues about the opportunity to give to the It's Personal campaign.
9. Adjournment – Carolyn motioned to adjourn. Linda seconded.

**Meeting was adjourned at 3:29 pm.**

Dr. Angela La Valley, Chairperson, GEC

## MINUTES

The meeting of the General Education Council was called to order at 2:00 PM on Monday, March 18, 2019 in the Andruss Library Schweiker room.

**Present:** A. La Valley (Chairperson), M. Bauman, B. Franek, L. Neyer, M. Miller, L. Selznick, J. Rarig, M. Cheese, J. Johnson, B. Lylo. B. Heckrote, C., Roberts, J. Harris (for Sheila Dove Jones), S. Saracoglu.

Guest: Aimee Wenta

1. Call to Order – Angela La Valley called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm.
2. Approval of the Agenda of [March 18, 2019](#) – Loren Selznick motioned to approve the agenda. Janet Rarig seconded.

**Motion to approve the agenda passed unanimously.**

3. Approval of the Minutes of [March 4, 2019](#). – Linda Neyer motioned to approve the minutes of 3/4/2019. Ben Franek seconded. Mindi Miller submitted proposed changes in the language under item 7.

**Motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously.**

4. GE Report Draft – Angela asked for any additional suggestions, or thoughts on the GE Report Draft before it is submitted as a resource for the Middle States Visiting Team, if requested. The committee provided the following suggestions and comments on the report:

- Examine the consistency in discussion of and clarify recommendations regarding VALUE Rubrics
- Include discussion of the work done by the committee, and a narrative about information the data collected about GE has provided, in the executive summary
- Refresh and update the draft; include index and referenced GE reports in a packet to provide to each Middle States visitor.
- Provide 3-5 major suggestions/recommendations in order of importance for the report rather than a long list of suggestions/recommendations that are more internal.
- A conclusion or summary statement should be added before the suggestions/recommendations.

Committee members are asked to send other ideas or suggestions to Angela and/or Mark.

5. MyCore Assessment Plan—Angela noted that we recognize issues with the VALUE rubrics. There is an acknowledged lack of programmatic assessment data beyond course level, in the meantime we can start to look at some sources of indirect assessment data (NSSE, GPI, First Destination, etc.). Angela and Mark have a meeting with Dr. Krause on 4/4 to present the issues the committee



has recognized, and what the committee would like to look at in place of the VALUE rubrics for the time being. The question of the MyCore assessment plan “Are students meeting the general education goals?” Can we triangulate with other sources of data to answer this question? The committee decided to look at several data reports together and then split off into groups if needed. The committee will look at the First Destination Survey and the GPI first. Jerald said we can add 3-5 questions to the GPI. We will be looking at how the data lines up with the goals and with the mission of general education according to PRP 3612.

6. Chair Remarks – Open meeting at BUCC this Wednesday 3/20 at 3:00.
7. Open Forum
8. Adjournment – Loren Selznick motioned to adjourn. Jerrold Harris seconded.

**Meeting was adjourned at 3:50 pm.**

Dr. Angela La Valley, Chairperson, GEC

## MINUTES

The meeting of the General Education Council was called to order at 2:00 PM on Monday, April 1, 2019 in the Andruss Library Schweiker room.

**Present:** A. La Valley (Chairperson), S. Dove Jones, B. Franek, , C. LaMacchia, M. Miller, L. Selznick, J. Rarig, M. Cheese, J. Johnson, B. Lylo. B. Heckrote, C., Roberts, S. Saracoglu, J. Seek Kim W. Turner.

Guest: Aimee Wentta, Jerrold Harris

1. Call to Order – Angela La Valley called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm.
2. Approval of the Agenda of [April 1, 2019](#) – Loren Selznick motioned to approve the agenda. Ben Franek seconded.

**Motion to approve the agenda passed unanimously.**

3. Approval of the Minutes of [March 18, 2019](#). – Melissa Cheese motioned to approve the minutes of 3/18/2019. Janet Rarig seconded.

**Motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously.**

4. Feedback from Middle States Visiting Team-  
Angela shared some of the comments and feedback from the Middle States Visiting Team. General Education needs the most work and improvement in the area of assessment; we need more information on student performance. Generally assessment of programs relies on a mix of indirect and direct measures of assessment. The visiting team viewed the CLE's and the GEP point system as positive aspects. They recommended that we use data to improve, and address challenges, of general education and to improve student learning objectives related to general education. Sheila notified the GEC that standard five was changed from being somewhat focused on general education to a more global perspective of areas for improvement. One member of the visiting team mentioned that 10 goals may be too many; usually 4-5 goals is typical for general education.
5. GE Report—Next Steps  
Angela asked the committee for ideas about where the GE Report should be shared across the campus. Ideas: department chairs (to be shared with department assessment committees), CGA, COSO, Forum, Academic Affairs Leadership Council, Student Affairs Leadership Council, and incoming Provost. A member from GEC will present the report to the various groups on campus to explain the work that has been done in GEC.
6. MyCore Assessment Plan-  
Mark and Angela have a meeting this week with Dr. Krause to discuss the GEC's intentions in regards to looking at other assessment data. Bob said that this might be a good time to experiment and try out some different types of direct assessment. Sheila suggested that current assessment

books are purchased for each committee member, and to look at general education workshops provided by Middle States.

a. GPI/NSSE Report

- a. Safa- in regards to the questions about Cultures and Diversity--How can we ask students to separate what they learn from general education from what students learn in the world around us?

b. First Destination Report

- a. Second Language—Safa- this goal has the lowest perception of achievement—how do we know what a student would measure their exposure to a second language? What is the criteria? Is it speaking fluently after two years, or being able to listen to something like the news in that language? Ben- Can we connect this to experiential learning? Jennifer- Is this question rated low because of the amount of students testing out of the second language requirement? Aimee- we may be able to add a tested out option for that question. Sheila- this may also be affected by the large number of students who take ASL.
- b. Bob- we are a competency based system. Students do not need to learn these goals here; is it problematic the way we are asking these questions since students do not need to take the courses at BU. Can we look at value added rather than what the students learned at Bloomsburg?
- c. Angela- Should we add an open ended question to allow students to comment on why they scored questions low. Aimee said we can add the open ended questions, but we should be mindful of how many we add since the survey is long, and students may not complete the survey if it becomes too long.

- 7. Chair Remarks – Revised by laws and PRP 3612 are on BUCC’s agenda for a second reading. PRP 3343- the Math department has put something together for students to earn GEPs for some transferred courses that do not have at equivalent course at BU.
- 8. Open Forum—William said we should find a new student, preferably a sophomore, as soon as possible. He recommends that the new student should start at the second to last meeting of the previous student’s term. This should not be a CGA member since those are elected positions.
- 9. Adjournment – Loren Selznick motioned to adjourn. Brooke Lylo seconded.

**Meeting was adjourned at 3:53 pm.**

Dr. Angela La Valley, Chairperson, GEC

## MINUTES

The meeting of the General Education Council was called to order at 2:00 PM on Monday, April 15, 2019, in the Andruss Library Schweiker room.

**Present:** A. La Valley (Chairperson), M. Bauman, B. Franek, L. Neyer, M. Miller, L. Selznick, C. LaMacchia, J. Rarig, J. Johnson, B. Lylo. B. Heckrote, C., Roberts, J. Seek Kim, S. Dove Jones, S. Saracoglu, W. Turner

Guests:

Jerald Harris & Aimee Wenta- Planning and Assessment

Wendy Lee- Philosophy

Peter Doerschler- Political Science

Jennifer Whisner- EGGS

Sophia Robinson- CGA

1. Call to Order – Angela La Valley called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm.
2. Approval of the Agenda of April 15, 2019 – Linda Neyer motioned to approve the agenda. Bob Heckrote seconded.

**Motion to approve the agenda passed unanimously.**

3. Approval of the Minutes of April 1, 2019. – Loren Selznick motioned to approve the minutes of 4/1/2019 meeting. Ben Franek seconded.

**Motion to approve the minutes with minor revisions passed with 1 abstention.**

4. Course Proposals

- a. [PHIL 298](#) Environmental Ethics for 2 GEP in Goal 10: Citizenship (new course)

Bob Heckrote made a motion to bring the proposal for PHIL 298 to the floor for review. Linda Neyer seconded.

Dr. Wendy Lee presented the course. This is a new course, and will expand the department's course offerings in applied ethics. The course would have two general education points in Citizenship.

### **Recommendations/Suggestions:**

- Revision to R9- the optional additions in core course content should be revised to clarify that these other options can be altered according to the instructor's discretion.
- Add paragraph to R11 with information from Q2
- Remove wording about specific rubrics in R14
- SLO 2 language appears in the rubric at the back instead of SLO 3 language – replace SLO 3 language with the correct wording

**Motion to recommend to BUCC with suggested corrections passed unanimously.**

- b. [POLISCI 260](#) Introduction to Comparative Politics. Add 1 GEP in Goal 3: Analytical and Quantitative Skills, 2 GEP in Goal 6: Social Science, and add distance education.

William Turner made a motion to bring the proposal for POLISCI 260 to the floor for review. Sheila Dove Jones seconded.

Dr. Pete Doerschler presented the course. This course is a core course in the Political Science department. It has been changed from a 300 level to a 200 level course. Course content will stay the same.

**Recommendations/Suggestions:**

- Q1 has 1 GEP in Goal 4 instead of Goal 3 – specify the correct goal.
- Add paragraph to #11 in Master Syllabus with information from Q2.
- Adjust wording in SLO to make it more clearly related to Goal 3

**Motion to recommend to BUCC with suggested corrections passed unanimously.**

- c. [EGGS 108](#) Climate Change Consequences and Solutions (new course). Add 1 GEP in Goal 3: Quantitative Analysis, 1 GEP in Goal 5: Natural Sciences, 1 GEP in Goal 10: Citizenship, and add distance education.

Ben Franek made a motion to bring the proposal for EGGS 108 to the floor for review. Carolyn LaMacchia, seconded.

Dr. Jennifer Whisner presented the course. This will be a new course in the EGGS department, it is specifically designed for general education.

**Recommendations/Suggestions:**

- Q1 needs a GEP box with a listing of the proposed points
- Add paragraph to #11 in the Master Syllabus with information from Q2
- R10 add wording about a possible fee for exam proctoring

**Motion to recommend to BUCC with suggested corrections passed with one abstention.**

5. Summer Assessment Fellows and MyCore Assessment Plan

Angela and Mark had a meeting with Dr. Krause about how assessment of general education may move forward. Funds are available for Summer Assessment Fellows to do work early in the summer so faculty can prepare their syllabi for fall if changes are needed.

6. Chair Remarks –There will be one more meeting on 4/29 with new members. Angela will be giving a report on the committee's work to Forum on 4/24. The following GEC members were

recognizes for completing their 2-year term and thanked for the work they've done on the Council: Mindi Miller, Linda Neyer, Carolyn LaMacchia, Brooke Lylo, Melissa Cheese, and Loren Selznick.

7. Open Forum  
None

8. Adjournment – Loren Selznick motioned to adjourn. Carolyn LaMacchia seconded.

**Meeting was adjourned at 3:22 pm.**

Dr. Angela La Valley, Chairperson, GEC

## MINUTES

The meeting of the General Education Council was called to order at 2:00 PM on Monday, April 29, 2019 in the Andrus Library Schweiker room.

**Present:** A. La Valley (Chairperson), M. Bauman, M. Cheese, B. Franek, L. Neyer, M. Miller, C. LaMacchia, J. Johnson, B. Lylo, J. Harris (for S. Dove Jones) R. Heckrote, L. Selznick

New GEC members in attendance (nonvoting until 2019-2020 Chair Election): K. Beishline, J. Bentley, B. Entzminger, C. Sachar

Guests:

Curt Jones- Mathematical and Digital Sciences

1. Call to Order – Angela La Valley called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm.
2. Approval of the Agenda of April 29, 2019 – Loren Selznick motioned to approve the agenda. Ben Franek seconded.

**Motion to approve the agenda passed unanimously.**

3. Approval of the Minutes of April 15, 2019. – Bob Heckrote motioned to approve the minutes of 4/15/2019 meeting. Linda Neyer seconded.

**Motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously**

4. Course Proposals
  - a. [MATH 197, 198, 199](#)- Math transfer courses. MATH 199 for three GEP in Goal 3: Analytical and Quantitative Skills and a course for the Foundational Math requirement. MATH 198 course for Foundational Math. MATH 197 no GEP or Foundational Math requirement.

**Recommendations/Suggestions:**

- A separate omnibus form is needed for each course
- Add a note about MATH197 courses that are less than three credits
- This cannot be retroactive

**Motion to recommend to BUCC with suggested corrections passed unanimously.**

5. End-of-year Report
  - A. La Valley presented information about GEC's work over the course of the last two years. 42 courses were reviewed by the GEC. A. La Valley also presented the work of the GEC to Forum.

6. Chair Election—L. Selznick nominated A. La Valley to continue as chair of GEC. L. Neyer seconded. A. La Valley was elected chair unanimously by voice vote.
7. Open Forum  
Funds are available for Summer Assessment Fellows to do work early in the summer so faculty can prepare their syllabi for fall if changes are needed.
8. Adjournment – Loren Selznick motioned to adjourn. Carolyn LaMacchia seconded.

**Meeting was adjourned at 2:42 pm.**

Dr. Angela La Valley, Chairperson, GEC