GE Revision Motion

Rationale
The proposal addresses the concern that the "Competent Action" portion of the "Competent and Compassionate Action" section of our general education curriculum should be the domain of academic majors and departments, not the general education program or committee. All courses in the current "Competent Action" section (Integrating the Major Discipline, Research, and Productions and Presentations) are upper-division major courses designed to help students learn “the discipline of submitting to a particular methodology and of mastering a specialized body of content” or going "beneath the surface of a field of learning” (“The GE Committee Combined Document,” p. 1). These are clearly seen as worthy goals. However, the concern is that these goals should be stewarded by the academic departments, not the General Education Committee.

In this light, academic departments should have primary responsibility for any integrative, capstone or competency requirement for their majors. This responsibility includes designing and developing all components of this requirement, aligning it with other major courses, and assessing student learning there. The vast majority of academic departments are already doing this. Therefore, this proposal largely reflects the status quo and releases the General Education Committee from the responsibilities they cannot and should not perform.

Motions
1. Eliminate Integrating the Major Discipline, Research, and Productions and Presentations from the “Competent and Compassionate Action” section of the General Education Curriculum.
2. Rename the “Competent and Compassionate Action” section as the “Compassionate Action” section of the General Education Curriculum.