

MINUTES

General Education Committee

March 8, 2022

10:30 AM – noon.

Members present:

Stephen Contakes (Professor of Chemistry), Tara Sturges (Assistant Registrar), Steve Hodson (Professor of Music), Jana Mayfield Mullen (Director of the Westmont Library), Tatiana Nazarenko (Dean of Curriculum and Educational Effectiveness), Greg Spencer (Professor of Communication Studies)

Agenda Items:

I. Prayer – Steve Contakes

II. Approve the Minutes of February 8th

The meeting minutes were approved without change.

III. Consideration of PHS-030 *Physics for Future Presidents* for Exploring the Physical Sciences and Quantitative and Analytical Reasoning GE credit

The committee decided to request revisions explaining exactly how the course will seek to achieve the certification criteria and learning outcomes.

IV. Report on progress towards revising the *Biblical and Theological Foundations of Justice, Reconciliation, and Diversity* proposal.

Stephen Contakes reported on the current status of the BTFJRD GE proposal. Because the proposal is undergoing evaluation by various campus communities it will be discussed at the next meeting after that process is complete.

V. Discussion about making Serving Society a graduation requirement rather than a GE requirement.

The main issue is that General Education is a program and needs to be assessed while serving society is something we want our students to do and trust will benefit them – *i.e.* it is something we are comfortable leaving as an input. Stephen Contakes relayed Michelle Hardley's judgement that serving society credit would need to be either tracked as a course as is done currently or someone would need to be responsible for tracking it.

Tara Sturges clarified that transfer students usually meet a service requirement through a course. Tara indicated that serving society could be built into colleague but the process would

need to be refined but something like a major declaration form or a refined version of the research form explaining the criteria. However, these alternatives are offered as a courtesy. In saying this is not a GE requirement we recognize that it is not our purview for addressing this issue. Steve Hodson recommended that we simply remove this from the GE and commend it to the faculty for consideration of how service activities could be addressed moving forward. Steve recommended that the Center for Justice and Reconciliation at Point Loma Nazarene University might serve as a useful model for us here. We suggest that the serving society requirement be slated for removal from the GE as soon as a plan for accommodating service as a graduation requirement is in place.

Moving forward,

- Tatiana will craft the rationale for a proposal asking for serving society to serve as a graduation requirement rather than a GE requirement.
- At our next meeting we will add to the document as a committee to prepare it for senate consideration

VI. Other business

We should start thinking about who might serve on this committee as the social science and NBS faculty members on this committee next year.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Contakes