

MINUTES
General Education Committee
January 29, 2026
1:15-2:45pm
Montecito Room

Members present: Michelle Hardley (Secretary, Registrar), Heather Keaney (Professor of History), Jana Mayfield Mullen (Director, Library & Information Services), Tatiana Nazarenko (Dean of Curriculum and Educational Effectiveness), Russell Smelley (Professor of Kinesiology), Telford Work (Chair, Professor of Religious Studies)

Absent:

I. Prayer – Russell Smelley

II. Approval of the minutes from January 15, 2026
The minutes were approved.

III. Meeting with the WSCUC Team – Follow-Up

Tatiana reviewed the feedback received from the WSCUC assessment team. There were 4 commendations and 5 recommendations. The committee discussed the possibility of inviting Tim Loomer to a future GE Committee meeting to unpack the results as one of the recommendations had to do with the GE program.

IV. Exploring the Physical/Life Sciences Assessment

Heather sent a message to the faculty who teach in this area to determine whether they wanted to use the existing assessment tool or to meet next week to develop a new assessment. One of the faculty who responded suggested one minor change of the wording in the assessment.

She is going to reach out again to those who have not responded for final confirmation. Her expectation is that they will all decide to use the current assessment tool.

Tatiana sent the original assessment tool to Heather (as the version she was working with was the one embedded in the older assessment report. Heather will send this to the participating faculty and create a Google sheet to gather details on how and when they plan to administer the tool. Questions for the faculty on the Google form will include the date the assessment will be given, the location (in-class/out of class), and the method (paper versus an online Google survey). We will

also ask faculty to submit an interpretation of the data from their class once the data has been analyzed.

The assessment team will then meet for one day in the summer to analyze and disaggregate the data (usually 3-4 hours). Lunch and a small stipend will be provided for the faculty who help with this analysis. Laura Nichols can help with the statistical analysis of the raw data if needed.

V. Written and Oral Communication Follow-Up

Tatiana is making the list of the Oral Communication courses and will post the list when ready.

Telford is working with Elizabeth Gardner to get 5 minutes at an upcoming faculty meeting to give a pitch for Oral Communication submissions and review how to submit proposals. February is the best meeting option for this work because the deadline for course submission is March 6th. This deadline will give us just enough time to consider the proposals in advance of Fall 2026 registration.

VI. Other Business

None at this time.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Hardley