

GE Subcommittee Agenda
Monday, June 22, 2015
9:00-10:00 am
KL 326

I. Informational Items (9:00-9:10am)

- A. VPDUE Whitt meeting with Provost/EVC Peterson about the GE Retreat (June 19, 2015)

- B. Committee on Committee GESC chair process: Nominations are appreciated by 12pm Thursday, June 25.

II. Discussion

- A. Review goals of retreat and projects that were produced (9:10-9:15am)

- B. Plan consensus document process (9:15-9:45am)
 - (1) Goal: Develop a consensus document from GE retreat to faculty, student and staff commentary, summarizing GE mission and outcomes (or broad categories for outcome descriptions)
 - (2) Confirm editorial strategy
 - (a) Draft goal: To provide comprehensive and inclusive descriptions, featuring notable instances of overlapping language / concepts. Consistency with the hallmarks, institutional mission, and self study are also important.
 - (b) Editorial principles: Stylistic consistency informs potential language additions or adjustments (e.g. transitions, clarity of language, conceptual emphases, etc.)
 - (3) Identify a format
 - (a) Mission: Potential model would be a mission (100-150 words) and educational philosophy (about 500-1000 words)
 - (b) Outcomes: Confirmed categories or emphases to provide clusters and descriptions, rather than condensed, refined outcome statements.
 - (c) A notes section could include projects but not specific details from team notes / discussions.

- C. Form a GESC ad hoc committee to develop draft (9:45-9:50am)
Draft for GESC review: Proposed deadline of July 10 with July 17 as distribution date.
GE retreat participant review until August 17.

- D. Consider and confirm GE retreat committee memo (pp. 2-3) (9:50-10:00am)
Distribution will be 12pm Wednesday, June 24



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June 18, 2015

Dear GE Retreat Participants,

Those of us on the General Education Subcommittee (GESc) are writing to thank you for a productive and rewarding two-day retreat on June 10 and 11, 2015. Not only was this an opportunity to collaborate with valued colleagues, we established some consensus on important frameworks for continued planning on General Education. Our time together also illustrated the importance of thinking across our groups towards a unifying, institutional purpose.

We will briefly summarize what to anticipate in the near future and then in the fall semester. Currently, GESc members are reviewing notes and team projects to write a summary of the retreat's purpose and projects. This summary will reflect consensus about the GE mission statement (short and long versions) and GE outcome categories, with notes that reflect considerations and recommendations. Our aim is to circulate this summary by July 17, with a commentary period until August 17, to review this record for accuracy (and all background materials will be available in Box, General Education Retreat).

During the fall semester, we will share this summary with other campus audiences to see the extent to which the draft mission and outcome categories reflect experiences, values, and priorities for GE. A mission statement and learning outcomes can take time and broad input to refine into an authentic and comprehensive description, so please anticipate that this retreat summary is foundation to this process.

To conclude, we really appreciate the time and energy that went into working together at this 2015 GE Retreat. Any updates are meant to maintain communication and provide information. Our intention is for this planning process to be as transparent and inclusive as possible. Please know that we maintain an open door leadership approach to GE; you are welcome to provide thoughts, questions or input at any point in this process by writing to fpaul@ucmerced.edu

Thank you for a rewarding planning experience, and we look forward to working with you on GE projects in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anne Zanzucchi".

Anne Zanzucchi
GE Subcommittee AY 2014-2015, Chair

With this year's GESc colleagues who include:
Harish Bhat, Applied Mathematics
Katie Brokaw, English
Jane Lawrence, Special Assistant to the Chancellor

Kelvin Lwin, Computer Science and Engineering
Laura Martin, Coordinator of Institutional Assessment
Charles Nies, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs
Kurt Schnier, Economics
Wil Van Breugel, Physics
Elizabeth Whitt, Vice Provost and Dean for Undergraduate Education