General Education Committee
College of Charleston

Date: September 17, 2015, 3:00 PM
Location: LCWA Conference Room, Jewish Studies Center
Attendees: Kristen Ashworth, Lisa Covert, Gayle Goudy, Jason Howell, Shawn Morrison, Gia Quesada
Recorded by Kristen Ashworth

1. Elected minute-taker: Kristen Ashworth

2. Approved minutes from 4/16/2015

3. Form for programs to delete courses for General Education
   a. We request a downloadable document of the form to be added to the General Education website.
   b. We no longer have a separate Gen Ed website – all forms are linked from the Academic Affairs website (“General Education Assessment”).
   c. Recommendation that we request a top-level site for Gen Ed with a directory to guide faculty to forms and information (gened.cofc.edu, for example) – Gia will control what is on the site
   d. Freeze in Gen Ed curriculum: 2014 memo sent to all chairs explaining (no adding or removing courses)
      i. Unofficial requests for removing courses – will be official in Fall 2017
      ii. Current process – when senate approves, we stop collecting artifacts (for assessment purposes); however, students still receive credit for courses (until Fall 2017)
      iii. We will begin recertifying courses for Gen Ed in Fall 2016 to be in place for Fall 2017
      iv. Purpose for freeze was to provide transparency regarding which courses count toward Gen Ed credits (for example, a course counting as Gen Ed during one year and not the other) – passed down from Registrar
      v. Committee discussed potential problems that will arise when the “unfreeze” happens
      vi. Discussed “distribution model” versus what is happening at other institutions (“General Education Reform” – creating new courses just as Gen Ed requirements)
   e. Goal: Define what we value as a university, which involves everybody
      i. Discussed reasoning behind a new model
      ii. We have to know what the students think (focus groups); we need to do a better job of explaining the reason for Gen Ed courses

Determine the order of our ongoing projects to complete
1. Focus groups (Oct. meeting)
2. Finish FLA (Nov. meeting)
   - involves the pre- and post-test for purposes of assessment
3. Get data from focus groups and begin writing coherent rationale (Dec./Jan.)
4. Math alternatives (Feb.),
   - Math Dept. will need to begin the discussion
   - Currently, Contemporary Math is available
   - Jason brought up the current alternatives for Math on the SNAP website
   - MATH 103 should be emphasized

From now on, we will meet from 3:15 to 4:15.