WCSU Committee on General Education
Annual Report, 2015-2016

Committee members: Missy Alexander, Jay Brower, Kelli Custer, William DeFeo, Wynn Gadkar-Wilcox, Theodora Pinou, Monica Sousa (Fall 2015), Rebecca Wade-Rancourt (Spring 2016), Timothy Wiggins, Jennifer O’Brien (Chair)

Meetings were held the first Friday of every month from 1-2:30PM (in Haas Library room 508).

The majority of the committee’s time was spent reviewing newly proposed general education courses to ensure they met the established goals and objectives of WCSU’s new competency-based general education curriculum. To that end, the committee also advised academic departments on the composition of course proposals to ensure they adequately reflected the student learning outcomes associated with said competencies. Approximately 120 course proposals were reviewed by the committee vis-à-vis the new tiered competencies.

At the March 2016 meeting, the Committee members voted to schedule additional meetings if the GEC queue in Sharepoint exceeded 25 proposals. As a result, the committee scheduled two special meetings – one in April, one in May - for course proposal review.

In addition to reviewing course proposals, the following documents were generated and/or reviewed:

- Basics of the New General Education Curriculum Approval Process – unanimously accepted
- General Education for New Students Starting Fall 2016 – accepted
- TAP Umbrella Degree for campus endorsement – unanimously re-affirmed
- Transitioning to the New General Education Curriculum – unanimously accepted
- Transfer Year competency definition and outcomes – discussed; implementation postponed, pending additional development and discussion

The Sharepoint course proposal form was updated to reflect the new general education competencies. Many thanks to Richard Corzo (IT&I) for his assistance and expertise.

A new Committee on General Education webpage was created to facilitate access to committee documents and additional, supporting material: libguides.wcsu.edu/gen_ed

In 2016-2017, the Committee anticipates it will begin working with the departments and faculty on assessment of the new competencies.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer O’Brien
May 13, 2016