

FHSU General Education Committee

Minutes

Meeting Called by

Bradley Will, Chair

Date: Thursday September 5, 2019

Time: 3:30-5:00

Location: Rarick Hall 113

Members

Douglas Drabkin (AHSS)

Marcella Marez (AHSS)

Jessica Heronemus (BE)

David Schmidt (BE)

Sarah Broman (Ed)

Phillip Olt (Ed)

Trey Hill (HBS)

Glen McNeil (HBS)

Joe Chretien (STM)

Lanee Young (STM)

Robyn Hartman (Lib)

Helen Miles (Senate)

Michael Musgrove (SGA)

Cheryl Duffy (Goss Engl)

Tanya Smith (Grad Sch)

3:31 (1 minute) All members were present with the exception of Marez. Heronemus served as proxy for Marez. Determined that a quorum was met. The committee was joined by Linda McHenry from the Department of English and Kristi Mills, Assisant Research Analyst in the Office of the Assistant Provost for Institutional Effectiveness and Quality Improvement.

3:32 (2 minutes) Introductions were made for the benefit of Phillip Olt who is taking the place of Deana Zerr on the committee. He is representing the College of Education.

3:34 (49 minutes) McHenry and Mills presented data from one year of classes, 2017-2018, indicating that first-year on-campus students who completed with a passing grade one or more of six courses -- INF 101 Introduction to Computer Information Systems, MATH 110 College Algebra, ENG 101 Composition I, ENG 102 Composition II, HHP 200 Personal Wellness, and COMM 100 Fundamentals of Oral Communication -- all Foundation Studies courses in the current General Education Program, had a retention rate (the student returning for a second year of college) ranging from 6 to 13 percentage points higher than first-year on-campus students who either didn't enroll in these courses at all, or enrolled in them and didn't pass. McHenry and Mills said that the data should not be interpreted to mean that taking and passing one or more of these courses *causes* student retention. But it seemed to them that taking and passing one or more of these courses makes it *more likely*. They recommend, to improve retention rates at FHSU, that advisors encourage students to take at least three of these Foundation Studies courses in their first year of college. This report was presented as purely informational. No action was taken.

4:23 (7 minutes) Attention turned at the end of the meeting to faculty senate's upcoming consideration of the CORE program policies and procedures. The senate plans to have the Academic Affairs committee study the proposed policies and procedures in the next couple of weeks and make a recommendation to the senate for their October meeting. The policies and procedures may be put to a vote at that meeting.

Submitted by D. Drabkin, Recording Secretary

