**FHSU General Education Committee**

**Minutes**

Meeting Called by

Bradley Will, Chair

Date: Monday November 13, 2017

Time: 3:30-4:30

Location: Rarick 205

Members

Douglas Drabkin (AHSS)

Marcella Marez (AHSS)

Jessica Heronemus (BE)

David Schmidt (BE)

Kevin Splichal (Ed)

Teresa Woods (Ed)

Trey Hill (HBS)

Glen McNeil (HBS)

William Weber (STM)

Tom Schafer (STM)

Robyn Hartman (Lib)

Helen Miles (Senate)

Adam Schibi (SGA)

Cheryl Duffy (Goss Engl)

Kenton Russell (FYE)

Tanya Smith (Grad Sch)

Paul Lucas (nonvoting member)

3:32 (3 minutes) All members were present with the exception of Hill, Lucas, Schafer, and Weber.

3:33 (42 minutes) The committee examined the recently drafted measurable learning outcomes from the subgroup working on the historical mode of inquiry, discussed them at length, individually and as a set, and decided, in the end, to send them back for reformulation. Takeaways from the discussion include the following: (1) Each measurable learning outcome needs to be *one thing* (one product, one activity) formulated around *one verb phrase* (the student will identify x, or the student will interpret y, or the student will write z, etc.). (2) Each measurable learning outcome needs to be clearly written, so that there is no question what it’s calling for; although these outcomes will be formulated outside our committee, they need to make perfect sense to our committee, and eventually to the university community as a whole. (3) The subgroups should take the “scope-skill-significance” pattern as no more than a reasonable jumping off point for formulating outcomes; the final set of three outcomes (or two, or one) should be whatever the subgroup judges best captures the heart of the program objective under consideration (or in the case of objective 2.1, the heart of the mode of inquiry under consideration). And (4) we can’t spend 40+ minutes on each of these sets of learning outcomes. This last point is plainly false as a statement of fact, but true as a statement of the committee’s intention.

4:22 (12 minutes) Woods brought a draft of the survey that we will be sending out to stakeholder groups to get further feedback on the measurable learning outcomes that will soon be coming out of our committee. The document was discussed, edited, and put to a vote for acceptance; this passed unanimously. (*See Appendix for the resulting document.*) Woods explained that, as long as the survey data aren’t reported in any study beyond the FHSU campus, there is no need to submit it for IRB approval (that is, for consideration by the institutional review board overseeing human subject research at FHSU). Woods will nonetheless run the survey by Leslie Paige for her blessing.

4:34 Meeting ended. No meeting next week. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday November 27 at 3:30 PM in Rarick 205.

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**Submitted by D. Drabkin, Recording Secretary**



***Appendix – survey instrument*** (see 4:22 above):

Dear Colleagues,

The General Education Committee (formerly Liberal Education Committee) **wants your feedback** on learning outcomes for FHSU’s baccalaureate graduates. Over the last two years, we have incorporated FHSU community input to develop three goals and twelve learning objectives to identify our expectations of what students should know and be able to do upon graduation.

**Now we need your input on the measurable learning outcomes related to each learning objective.**

Small groups convened by the General Education Committee have developed these measurable learning outcomes (see below). Because you are recognized as a relevant expert and/or stakeholder, we ask for your feedback on these. **Please complete the brief survey at the link below by {closing date}.**

**{link}**

Of the twelve learning objectives, this survey considers the learning outcomes related to (the \_\_\_\_\_\_ mode of inquiry within) this one learning objective:

*Objective 2.1 Knowledge of the Liberal Arts: Students will possess a broad understanding of the world, having studied the humanities, mathematics, the natural sciences, and the social and behavioral sciences, and the ways of knowing characteristic of these disciplines.*

Please keep in mind that we are not considering courses now. Rather, the General Education program is being revised as an outcomes-based program.

**Please forward this survey** to any FHSU faculty member (full-time or adjunct) that you deem has expertise and/or is a stakeholder in this area. In addition, please forward this survey to anyone who requests it of you.

If you choose to provide feedback, we ask that you provide your name and department. We ask this for reasons of transparency and ability to follow up with individuals. As such, this is not considered a research study, but rather a program improvement survey. We appreciate your input. **Survey will close on {date (one week)}.**

**{link}**

**Survey**

Name (required)

Department (required)

The General Education Committee would like to know your level of support of the measurable outcomes below. We also encourage comments on each. These address the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (mode of inquiry within the) learning objective:

*Objective 2.1 Knowledge of the Liberal Arts: Students will possess a broad understanding of the world, having studied the humanities, mathematics, the natural sciences, and the social and behavioral sciences, and the ways of knowing characteristic of these disciplines.*

*Learning Outcome 1: xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx*

Please rate your level of support:

Strongly support

Support

Neither Support/Oppose

Oppose

Strongly Oppose

Comments, including rationale for response and suggestions:

*Learning Outcome 2: xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx*

Please rate your level of support:

Strongly support

Support

Neither Support/Oppose

Oppose

Strongly Oppose

Comments, including rationale for response and suggestions:

Etc. for each Learning Outcome