

# General Education Subcommittee Meeting

## WebEx

### Thursday February 11, 2021

**In attendance:** Valerie Guyant, Gwen Hart, Charlie Mack, Cristy Ozburn, Aaron Riggins and Kasthuri Udayakumar.

**Absent:** Spike Magelssen and Joyce Mphande-Finn

**Recorder:** Cristy Ozburn

Meeting called to order at 1:01 p.m.

Meeting minutes from the January 28, 2021 meeting were reviewed and unanimously approved.

No proposals were discussed.

#### New Business:

The Academic Senate is updating its by-laws. As part of the update, this committee was asked to review the existing statement describing this committee's function. After careful consideration, the below language has been recommended.

Current version: To conduct an ongoing review of the General Education requirements for the Associate and Bachelor degrees and make recommendations to the Academic Senate. The General Education Committee is also responsible for the development and implementation of an assessment plan for the General Education program courses, and to conduct the necessary review of these assessments.

New version: To conduct an ongoing review of and make recommendations to the Academic Senate regarding the General Education Core and the courses included therein. The General Education Subcommittee is also responsible for the development, implementation, and execution of an assessment plan of the General Education Core.

Next, the committee discussed the existing General Education Mission Statement, which is as follows:

“Montana State University Northern’s General Education Core provides students with breadth and depth in their education in order to enrich the specialized knowledge developed in a major field. These requirements are intended to foster critical thinking skills, support integrative learning, widen social and cultural perspectives, and aid students in developing into well-rounded, civically engaged professionals.”

The committee then discussed themes within the mission statement, namely: critical thinking, integrative learning, social and cultural perspectives, and civic engagement. The committee gave careful consideration in determining whether or not civic engagement should be included among the Core Learning Outcomes and ultimately decided to exclude it, while still maintaining the existing language in the General Education Mission Statement.

At this point, the committee is inclined to move forward with the remaining Core Learning Outcomes: critical thinking, integrative learning, and social and cultural perspectives. Next, the committee will define those Core Learning Outcomes, so they can be assessed across the General Education Core.

Meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.