

University of Nebraska at Kearney

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General Education Council

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10-3-2024

## October 2024 General Education Council Minutes

University of Nebraska at Kearney General Education Council

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**UNK General Education Council Meeting Agenda**  
**Thursday, October 3, 2024**  
**Warner Conference Room, 3:30 p.m.**

**Approved 11/7/24**

**Present:** Derek Boeckner, Kurt Borchard, Joe Dolence, Kate Heelan, Heather Meyer, Ahna Packard, Rochelle Reeves, Jacob Rosdail, Miechelle McKelvey (proxy for Whitney Schneider-Cline), Rick Schuessler, Chris Steinke, Jane Strawhecker, Greg Benson (proxy for Frank Tenkorang), Chris Exstrom, Lisa Neal, Jessie Bialas, John Gibbs, Scott Unruh, Gabriela Valencia, VCAA Unruh

**Guests:**

**Absent:** SVCAA Shaffer

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. ROLL CALL
- III. AGENDA APPROVAL (completed by October 1 *via* e-mail)
- IV. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES – **enclosed**
  - A. Boeckner/Reeves moved to approve the September 5, 2024, meeting minutes.  
**Motion Carried**
- V. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS
  - A. none
- VI. REPORTS (from *ex-officio* GEC members)
  - A. Senior Vice-Chancellor of Academic Affairs
    - i. none
  - B. Registrar
    - i. none
  - C. Director of Assessment & Accreditation
    - i. none
  - D. Director of Academic Advising & Career Development
    - i. none
  - E. Director of General Education
    - i. Presented LOPR 126 status update to CAS, CBT, and COE Chair’s Councils during week of September 9-13 – **outline and comments/questions are enclosed**
    - ii. Starting to receive inquiries about Fall 2024 assessment data collection

- iii. UNK team – Julie Shaffer, Scott & Nita Unruh, Frank Tenkorang, Chris Exstrom (with room for one more) – will attend the Higher Learning Commission’s “Assessing General Education Virtual Workshop,” January 16, 17, 23, & 24

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Consider establishing subcommittees for oversight, assessment, and course review functions – **draft language enclosed**

- i. If passed, discuss initial subcommittee assignments, tasks and impact on governance document
- ii. Boeckner/Dolence moved to establish General Education Council subcommittees (Oversight, Assessment, and Course Review). **Motion Carried**
- iii. Exstrom suggested that the initial course review goes to himself first, to go through the checklist, then to the Course Review subcommittee for approval.
- iv. Boeckner/Heelan moved to approve the following:
  - 1. *The General Education Council temporarily delegates authority to send proposed course approvals and minor General Education program changes out for campus comment to the Assessment, Course Review, and Oversight subcommittees in accordance with their respective responsibilities. Unless codified in the General Education Program governance document, this authority expires on May 15, 2025.*
  - 2. *The General Education Council temporarily transfers the responsibility for approving syllabi completion (or “checklist”) for proposed courses to the Director of General Education, who will then submit such proposals to the Course Review subcommittee for consideration. Unless codified in the General Education Program governance document, this action expires on May 15, 2025.*

**3. Motion Carried**

B. LOPER 1 learning objectives review

- i. Respond to feedback from LOPR 126 update
  - 1. Exstrom reviewed the feedback from the college chairs meeting with the Council.
- ii. Univ. of South Carolina “University 101” model – **main webpage copy enclosed**
- iii. Further LOPR 126 format discussion, possible action – learning objectives, co-curricular (university skills) delivery, scheduling logistics, GEC topic approval, etc. – **revised LOPR 126 learning outcomes and structure**

**proposal is enclosed along with LNSK 103 sample syllabus and schedule/scope/sequence chart**

1. Heelan shared the LOPR 126 proposal with the Council, which included learning objectives.
2. Dolence stated that having one instructor is much more feasible for faculty. He also stated that he thinks the skills portion should be taught by the skills staff and thinks having faculty teach skills could be an issue for faculty. Gibbs stated they would have staff for 30+ sections but they are willing to instruct faculty on how to teach the skills portion if they so choose.
3. Packard suggested using LNSK 103 to fulfill the LOPER 1 category. Exstrom suggested starting with LNSK 103 and add in the research skills. Boeckner asked if the Council should move to using LNSK 103 or try to integrate it into LOPR 126. Boeckner stated the course could be skilled based focused, but faculty could still add in their topic. Gibbs asked if the Council could approve LNSK 103 as a LOPER 1 course. Exstrom stated that if LNSK 103 meets the LOPER 1 learning objectives it would need to go through the approval process like other courses. He stated the advantage of LNSK 103 is that the course is already in place with staff ready to teach the course and faculty could be trained to teach the course. Exstrom stated the Council needs informal feedback from campus.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- i. Assessment data collection – **proposed plan from 2022-2024 GE assessment report enclosed**
  1. Exstrom stated that he will let chairs know that the Council will continue to collect data.

IX. GENERAL COMMENTS (from Council members)

A. none

X. **ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned @ 5:05 pm.**

**Next meeting: November 7, 2024 @ 3:30 pm, Warner Conference Room, Warner Hall**