

During the Spring 2006 semester, the University Senate approved the conceptual framework for a new general education program for Georgia College. The University Senate further asked me to appoint a representative group of faculty to flesh out the conceptual framework, particularly with respect to questions that have been raised regarding its implementation. I am hoping that you will be willing to serve on this committee, which will be chaired by Dr. Mike McGinnis.

The committee is specifically charged with the following important tasks:

- 1) Develop an overview of the educational purposes and benefits of the proposed general education program, suitable for printing in the undergraduate catalogue. This overview should explain to students and others the importance and challenge of this component of their educational experience at Georgia College (“program philosophy”), articulate desired learning outcomes, and present the program framework.
- 2) Develop recommendations regarding the advising tools that will be needed to reliably and efficiently advise and track student progress in completing general education requirements.
- 3) Develop recommendations for ensuring transferability
- 4) Develop recommendations for making assessment an integral part of the general education program
- 5) Develop recommendations regarding appropriate governance processes for reviewing and approving courses for inclusion in the general education program, for monitoring program outcomes, and for reviewing the effectiveness of the general education program on a recurring basis
- 6) Develop recommendations regarding the administrative structure and resources needed for optimal support of the general education program, both during its start up phase and on an ongoing basis
- 7) Develop a recommended implementation timeline

My hope is that the committee will be able to complete preliminary work on these tasks before the end of the Fall 2006 semester, at which time it can begin the process of seeking broader faculty input and fine-tuning or revision. Your final recommendations should be submitted to the Academic Governance Committee of the University Senate for its review and action.

Monica Wood will soon be contacting you to arrange for a time for an initial committee meeting. I thank you in advance for your commitment to helping to ensure that the General Education program at Georgia College engages students in intellectual work that is challenging and significant and invests the first two years of college with a greater sense of purpose and coherence

Dorothy Leland
President
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