

Approved on 10/07/25

General Education Committee Meeting

September 30, 2025

Members present: Anderson, Brantley, Buchter, Harvey, Heist (Chair), Janssen Robinson, Pocaro, Taylor, Thapaliya

Business

1. Harvey motioned to approve the minutes for the meeting on September 23. Pocaro seconded. The minutes passed unanimously.
2. The committee looked at the GEC's call for materials for GE Curriculum Review Cycle III. Brantley had previously suggested linking the portal for submitting their materials on the document. Heist will revise the document and plans to get the call out in the next week.
3. Members of the committee discussed the goals of the committee—starting with inviting the Interim Provost to learn about the committee's role. Members planned to set a meeting with the Provost in October.
4. The committee discussed getting students' perspectives on the general education program. Brantley suggested enlisting the library ambassadors and possibly honors students as focus groups. Harvey suggested getting the perspectives of faculty/staff working in New Student Programs. The committee plans to prioritize creating questions for focus groups.
5. Heist presented research the committee had done about general education programs at peer institutions, Illinois public universities, and Midwest liberal arts colleges and highlighted the ones that have high-impact practices and innovative curricula.
6. Heist initiated a discussion about possibly doing a pilot program with a cohort of students and how to go about doing it—starting with a vision of general education and then moving to connecting courses. Members were presented some "Questions to Consider" based on the past two years of their work and research.
7. Heist shared conversation with Dr. Suzie Park about the importance of assessment and consideration of the IA GECC package in any pilot program.
8. The meeting adjourned at 1:56 pm.