

# GENERAL EDUCATION CORE STEERING COMMITTEE MINUTES



**Date:** Friday, April 23, 2021

**Time:** 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Central

**Facilitator:** Robert Denn

## Members in Attendance

Donna Seagle, Chief Academic Officer, WSCC | Barsha Pickell, Chief Academic Officer, CISCC | Ryan Thompson, Professor of History, CISCC | Barry Gidcomb, Professor of History, CoSCC | Robert Denn, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, TBR | Eric Niemi, Associate Professor of English, ChSCC | Rick Stoodly, Philosophy Instructor, CISCC | Victoria Gay, Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences, CoSCC | Jimmy Barham, Dean of Arts & Sciences, DSCC | Donna Brewer, English Instructor, MSCC | Donald Turner, Associate Professor of Philosophy, NaSCC | Francis Canedo, Dean of Humanities, NeSCC | Alex Fitzner, Associate Professor of English, PSCC | Diane Raines, Professor of English, RSCC | Sherria King, Associate Dean, SWCC | Jennifer James, Communication Faculty, VSCC | Chris Knight, Dean of Mathematics, Associate Professor of Mathematics, WSCC

## Members in Absentia

Abby Lackey, Associate Professor of Communications, JSCC

## Guests

Lynn Drew, CAP, Administrative Assistant II, TBR

Time	Item	Owner
1:00 p.m.	Welcome Robert Denn called the meeting to order by welcoming everyone.	Robert
1:03 p.m.	<i>Meeting Recording Began</i> – Attendees Notified Via Chat	Lynn
1:05 p.m.	Global Learning Outcomes College Presentations Pellissippi State, Cleveland State, and Chattanooga State all presented their institutions' GLOs. ( <i>PSCC and CISCC slides are attached.</i> )  Donna B commented that our System's GLOs are more concise than some others, and we should keep them that way.	Alex, Rick, Eric
1:30 p.m.	Open/General Discussion RSCC's Team of Ten came up with eight different learning outcomes and met monthly to examine the eight from last year and incorporated those in. Discussion was held regarding UTC/UTK as to what they are doing, and UTK's may not work for the entire state. UTC is far along and is leaning very strongly on AAC&U's learning outcomes. PSCC did their Statement of Purpose first, then tried	Steering Committee

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	<p>to link learning outcomes by category, then courses. Our system is based on and builds on what has already been done. AAC&amp;U and Passport are already recognized with a strong reputation. Avoid reinventing the wheel. CISCC – rebranding Gen Ed is important for our students. Quantitative analysis strengthens articulations, communication skills and critical thinking and creates more collaboration across campus. The approach to assessment is to directly connect learning outcomes to courses, eliminating any distance between saying what Gen Ed is in general and the content the courses address. Robert asked the question, of what value and purpose are the existing category learning outcomes that were generated in 2002 if we are connecting courses to GLOs? Opinions were offered that they need to be simplified as they are not relevant. What are our students getting out of these courses? Let us look at the courses that are Gen Ed and ask which of these learning outcomes is addressed in this course? A decision needs to be made as to whether to assess the program broadly or will outcomes be assessed in individual courses.</p>	
2:05 p.m.	<p>Category Learning Outcomes            Category Mapping            Category Architecture</p> <p>Are we keeping, do we need to modify? What level of brokenness is there – can it be improved upon? As they stand now are very specific and measurable, but not what we really need. Outcomes should inspire globally, but measure locally. They should be aligned both ways with the Statement of Purpose – to GLOs and the courses. Once GLOs are drafted, learning outcomes must be aligned to those and the courses themselves. Less is more, try to get down to a few critical ones. Will not deviate from the 41 hours for block transfer and TTPs. SACS accreditation requirements are 25% with at least one course from HFA/SBS/M&amp;S. Both GLOs and Statement of Purpose are needed when talking with universities, for communication’s sake. It is a standard way to communicate value of what we want students to know and is understandable to students. GLOs are critical on an assessment level – need to show how our courses align with this, assess at course level but show how it matriculates upward.</p>	Robert
2:10 p.m.	<p>TTP Intersection</p> <p>There are 69 TTPs that have been approved by participating colleges/universities. If our Teams of Ten choose to look at this, will have to work closely with THEC and universities so transferability is unaffected. Optimally, what would we like to have happen for our students? GLOs need drafts from each campus. Faculty are key in this process and are not on campus (generally) in the summer, so there is minimal opportunity to make headway on this until Fall.</p>	Robert
2:15 p.m.	<p>AAC&amp;U Institute for General Education and Assessment            What do you want us to learn?</p> <p>Our application was approved and Coordinating Committee will be attending as a team (virtual). The institute held in Vermont in 2019 was very instrumental. We will receive feedback from faculty experts and show where we are. Please send questions/themes/big areas that the Coordinating Committee needs to learn about in an email to Robert. Ask your Teams of Ten for models/explanations/things to learn.</p>	Coordinating Committee
2:20 p.m.	<p>The Campaign</p> <p>TBR seeks to effectively communicate the value of a holistic and integral general education core to students and community. How do we demonstrate its relevance, purpose, and benefit to the students’ personal and professional goals?</p> <p>Stigma that Gen Ed courses are the ones you want “out of the way” needs to be corrected. Marketing will assist with this statewide by showing the relevance of the value to the students. The timeline for organizing and launching campaign</p>	Robert

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	will most likely be Spring 2022, as GLOs must be developed first. External Affairs works closely with legislature and it will be beneficial to involve politicians and state officeholders. If we move outside of classroom thinking and build on what AAC&U has done, a lot of the marketing will be done for us. We should have a visually impacting logo.	
2:25 p.m.	<p>Next Meeting</p> <p>Next meeting will not be until Fall (August). Robert will send out information regarding summer opportunities to the Steering Committee, but they will not be required.</p>	Lynn
2:30 p.m.	Adjournment	Robert