

**UMW General Education Committee Minutes**  
**January 27, 2025**

**Present:** Antonio Barrenechea, Ian Finlayson (secretary), Alan Griffith, Suzie Kim, Brian Ogle, Angela Pitts (chair), Debra Schleef, Melissa Yakabouski.

1. The meeting was called to order at 4:02 PM.
2. We welcome Alan and Antonio as new members to the committee.
3. General education new designation requests:
  - a. DGST 306: Media Production for Social Change:
    - i. This class is requesting both the Beyond the Classroom and Community Engagement designations. However, Community Engagement implies Beyond the Classroom, so if we decide to approve CE, then BTC would be included automatically.
    - ii. The syllabus is missing the learning objectives for the CE and BTC designations.
    - iii. The syllabus also lacks specifics on how the interaction outside of the classroom. For instance, when and how often would students meet with the clients and how the 15 hours of engagement are achieved.
    - iv. We will roll back the BTC proposal as it is not needed. We will roll back the CE proposal requesting more information on how students will interact with clients, how the necessary hours of engagement are achieved, and ask that the learning outcomes to be included in the syllabus.
4. Transfer credit re-evaluation requests: We considered requests for two students.
5. Discussion of structural changes to the UFC and faculty governance:
  - a. UFC is attempting to reduce the number of seats on various faculty committees and so have asked us to consider the ideal number of faculty on the general education committee.
  - b. We believe it is important to have a variety of disciplinary outlooks and have not recommended the UFC to reduce the size of this body.
6. Discussion of current general education requirements:
  - a. Every five years or so we should take a high-level look at our general education program. It has not been looked at closely since it was overhauled in 2020.
  - b. Debra does not suggest any major changes, but does suggest we look at what the catalog says and look at the language used in the learning outcomes.

- c. For instance, we could consider how the emergence of generative AI impacts the WI, or DI designations and their outcomes.
  - d. This does not necessarily need to be done by this body.
  - e. There is no accessible location where the list of courses that have been approved for the various designations can be viewed. Perhaps there should be so faculty could see this information, such as in a Sharepoint document.
  - f. For our next meeting, we will look at documents from Debra regarding the general education program and discuss this further. We should also look at what some of our sister institutions are doing regarding the use of AI, or other trends.
7. Our next meeting will be held on February 24 at 4:00 PM.
  8. The meeting adjourned at 4:48 PM.