

Committee on General Studies
Annual Report, Academic year 2016-2017

Membership:

Elizabeth Pollock	Chair, GNM Convener
David Lechner	Vice-chair, Library
GT Lenard	Freshman Seminar Program
Katherine Panagakos	GAH Convener, union representative
John O'Hara	GEN Convener
Judy Vogel	GIS Convener
Janice Joseph	GSS Convener
John Pearlstein	BUSN
Shelly Meyers	EDUC
Kerri Sowers	HLTH

Ex Officio Members

Robert Gregg	Dean of General Studies
Lisa Honaker	Dean of ARHU, provost designee

2016-2017 Committee Activities

The past year was a quiet year for the General Studies Committee, with the committee meeting only twice as no agenda items were brought to the committee by either committee members or members of the broader Stockton community.

- A revised proposal on increasing the number of G-courses within a given category was submitted to the Senate and voted down.
- A conversation was had about whether or not the scope of the 'I' attribute meets the needs of ensuring our students are exposed to global issues. It was decided not to revisit the attribute definitions at this time.
- A conversation was had about academic programs using G-courses to fulfill requirements for the major. The committee is concerned about the tendency but does not see that there is anything that can be done at the committee level to combat this trend.
- Discussion of the review process continues. The conveners are piloting a review process in which faculty with courses up for review submit only a syllabus for the course and no additional paperwork unless the convener has concerns about the appropriateness of the course for that category. This minimalist process is likely to increase faculty compliance with the procedure but removes one of the valuable aspects of the course review – the self-reflection on the part of the faculty member with respect to what they are doing in the course and why.