

October 17, 2012

Provost's Statement on General Education Revision

Thank you for reviewing the general education proposal that faculty will be voting on later this semester. I believe that the faculty engagement and commitment to whatever general education curriculum we adopt will be as important to its success as getting the details of that curriculum "right." This proposal is the result of the hard work of many faculty across several years in two separate phases (goals and structure), as well as the input and constructive criticism of many more faculty from the two campus-wide retreats, many forums and individual, department and college meetings. At every stage, the two committees have engaged in a powerful combination of examining national trends and best practices, listening to student and staff perceptions, creative thinking within the committee, and careful and responsive attention to the feedback they received from faculty outside the committee. I think the results show the fruits of their labors and that adopting this curriculum will be a major step forward for the campus.

I know that, in addition to the importance of understanding the proposal, there are many questions yet to be resolved. I want you to know that I understand clearly the need to be as careful, thoughtful and serious about the consequences of implementation as we have been in the first two phases. Resources, governance structures, and criteria must all be determined with the same attention to detail and responsiveness to input as were the goals and the structure. That is the work we've been engaged in together for the last several years. I am confident the quality of the work will continue to be high, and I will be proud to be a champion of such an outcome. In particular, I am committed to securing the funding needed for added sections, faculty development and supporting the work of the faculty involved in the governance of the program.



C. David Moon

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