

General Education Assessment concerns:

Summary (expressed in email to SACS committee, GEAC, Interim Provost Dressman, and President Flores)

Serious concerns exist about current and long-standing issues regarding the responsibilities of the General Education Advisory Committee and the role of faculty on this committee. The general education program is a part of the curriculum. As with all other academic programs this curriculum falls under the primary responsibility of the faculty, particularly in terms of assessment. Confusion exists among the General Education Advisory Committee, SACS steering committee, and the Academic Assessment Committee about the current status of, and responsibility for, general education at UHD.

Background and History on UHD General Education Program and Assessment

General Education Assessment Plan (1983)

- Following are the UHD General Education learning outcomes developed in 1983 with faculty participation

Learning outcomes

1. To demonstrate the ability to view events from a variety of perspectives, especially historical and cultural.
2. To demonstrate the ability to communicate clearly and effectively and to use various media to transmit and process.
3. To demonstrate awareness of the different ways of pursuing methods of scientists and of those engaged in the arts and humanities.
4. To demonstrate knowledge of and sensitivity to ethical and moral standards
5. To demonstrate knowledge of and a degree of skill with new technologies.

Background on recent

- 1983 LOs used for 2005 SACS report – minimal report; UHD placed on monitoring
- 2nd SACS monitoring report - extensive report
 - New assessment tools implemented (MAPP, NSSE, and other tools) to satisfy report – were considered acceptable to UHD SACS committee for short term but insufficient for long term
- 1983 LOs need revision as stated in 2nd SACS monitoring report; but, have not been revised
- 2008/09 General Education Advisory committee reconfigured in Fall 2008 to be more faculty-driven and tied to curriculum.
- 2008/09 committee conducted minimal Gen Ed assessment
 - Result - UHD one year behind on Gen Ed assessment
- 2009/10 GEAC achieved some assessment in very short timeframe
 - Committee not appointed until late Spring 2008; did not meet until Fall 2009
 - Committee proposed that it rework learning outcomes, but directed to work only on assessment
 - Worked on ethics and technology assessment data; produced limited report 2008-09
 - 2009-10 assessments not yet completed (work expected to begin soon).

- Minimal support available for 2009/10 committee/heavy workload for assessment
- 2010/11 GEAC charged first with developing UHD Grad description – report today
 - Has not yet been charged with subsequent tasks (presumably learning outcomes; assessment charge uncertain).
- Numerous questions about Gen Ed assessment
 - Will a report be required for SACS 5th year interim report?
 - if not, opportunity to catch up on assessment + develop new learning outcomes – **much work to be done**
 - if so - **much more work to be done**
- Current plan for assessment ?
- Meeting on Thursday with GEAC, SACS committee, Deans, Provost, Assoc VP Institutional Effectiveness – to discuss General Education Assessment and SACS interim report