University General Education Committee meeting
March 18, 2022 via Zoom


Ex officio: Susan Myers-Shirk, Jeff Gibson

Guests: Katie Brackett, Beth Wright, Kari Neely, Brian Frank, Kristen West, Christobel Devadoss

Introductory matters:

Lando Carter, chair of the committee, welcomed everyone back from spring break. The committee had the minutes from the February 18, 2022, and March 4, 2022, meetings before the committee. There being no corrections or edits suggested, the minutes were approved.

Carter let the committee know that most of its work for the day would take place in separate break-out rooms as subcommittees. Each member also should have received a folder with files relevant to each of the subcommittees. After those subcommittee discussions, committee members will return to the whole group and take up any new business.

Amy Sayward asked if the subcommittees would take minutes. Susan Myers-Shirk, General Education Director, explained that while each subcommittee would likely assign a chair and/or recorder that no formal minutes were planned.

Keith Gamble asked what committee members had heard about the initial roll-out of the General Education models. Myers-Shirk explained that we were at the very beginning of the university comment period and that none of the scheduled town hall meetings had yet occurred. She also stated that she was planning to meet with Enrollment Services and individual academic advisors to ensure that the committee would have their feedback. Katherine Brackett also stated that few survey responses had yet been received. Sayward commented that the History Department believes that the models that had been presented to the university community would be catastrophic and that the University General Education Committee could expect lots of comments from that quarter.

At this point, the committee divided into its subcommittees in break-out rooms. While it had initially been expected that all of the subcommittees would return for a whole-committee discussion, some of the subcommittees needed the remainder of the meeting time to begin their
discussions. Therefore, although some members chatted in the whole-group session, it did not reconvene for formal discussion, and Carter adjourned the committee at 4:00 p.m.