



The University of Vermont
FACULTY SENATE

UVM General Education Coordinating Committee

The Mission and Purpose of UVM's General Education Curriculum

The General Education Program reflects the faculty's aspirations for all UVM undergraduates. General Education is the foundation of a transformative educational experience that prepares students to become accountable leaders who bring to their work dedication to the global community, a grasp of complexity, effective problem-solving and communication skills, and an enduring commitment to learning and ethical conduct. General Education courses transcend disciplinary boundaries; they help students develop integrated competencies that are essential to lifelong learning and responsible citizenship.

Committee Description

The UVM General Education Coordinating Committee (GECC) is a joint committee of the University of Vermont Faculty Senate and the Office of the Provost. Its purpose is to coordinate the activities, policies, and processes of the individual General Education Committees (currently Diversity, First-Year Writing and Information Literacy, Quantitative Reasoning, and Sustainability), bringing to the delivery of the General Education curriculum increased clarity, consistency, and efficiency. Following the formal establishment of the GECC, the individual General Education Curriculum Committees will no longer be standing subcommittees of the Senate Curricular Affairs Committee, but rather will report directly to the GECC, to which they will be responsible.

Structure

GECC membership includes the chairs/co-chairs of the individual General Education Curriculum Committees, the Associate Provost for Teaching and Learning, and the Faculty Senate President. The committee chair will be appointed by the President of the Faculty Senate.

Various other faculty members and University officers with particular expertise will from time to time be asked to meet with the GECC. Examples include the Registrar, the Director of the Center for Teaching and Learning, the Chair of the Senate Curricular Affairs Committee, the Provost's Faculty Fellow for Assessment, and the Assistant Provost.

Functions

The first priority of the GECC is to work out the individual General Education Curriculum Committees' policies and processes and bring them into alignment with one another. Other functions include:

- establishing and maintaining a visible, informative, and compelling web presence for the General Education curriculum
- developing operating procedures for new General Education requirements
- participating in the development of a plan for ongoing, regular assessment of the General Education Program and its identified student learning outcomes
- developing a plan for insuring portability of General Education courses among academic units
- advocating for the role of General Education in the academic life of the University
- determining the resources necessary for the oversight and coordination of, and communication about the UVM General Education Program and making recommendations to ensure adequate funding.

Meeting Schedule

The committee will typically meet on a monthly basis during the academic year, but the meetings may be more or less frequent as deemed necessary for the business at hand.