



TO: University of Vermont Faculty
FROM: Jennifer Dickinson, Associate Provost for Academic Affairs
RE: **Draft General Education Framework and Call for Ad Hoc Committee Members**
DATE: January 27, 2020

The General Education Alignment Task Force will be presenting a draft General Education Framework to the Faculty Senate at the January 27, 2020 meeting. The framework incorporates faculty input offered throughout the fall at college/school faculty meetings, Faculty Senate meetings, and the additional category proposal process. The full document is available as an attachment to the [Faculty Senate meeting agenda](#) and [on the Provost's website](#).

Faculty are invited to provide feedback through the Faculty Senate webpage "[Suggestion Box](#)" button. The General Education Alignment Task Force will be hosting four open forums to discuss the initial framework (February forums) and the revised framework incorporating ad hoc committee input (March forums). The dates, times, and locations of these are as follows:

Wed. February 12, 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM (Frank Livak Room, Davis Center)
Thurs. February 20, 2:00 – 3:30 PM (Waterman Memorial Lounge)

Wed. March 25, 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM (Waterman Memorial Lounge)
Tues. March 31, 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM (Frank Livak Room, Davis Center)

The Task Force also needs engaged faculty with teaching expertise and interest in the following seven areas to serve on ad hoc committees:

Humanities
Social Sciences
Natural Sciences
Communications 2 (WIL2 and Oral Communication options)
Integration and Application of Knowledge (Capstone)
Global Citizenship
Social Justice co-requirement

The ad hoc committees will meet 2-4 times in February to refine category descriptions, approval criteria, and learning outcomes for the new requirements, as well as discuss how the categories fit together into a coherent curriculum. Faculty interested in serving on an ad hoc committee should contact J. Dickinson (jadickin@uvm.edu) by Friday, January 31.

The committees will report to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee and the Task Force before Spring Break. The Task Force will use this feedback to revise the framework and present it at the March 23 Faculty Senate meeting and March open forums. The final version of the framework will be voted on in the Faculty Senate at the April or May meeting.

Revising our General Education curriculum to align with NECHE accreditation standards was a clear direction emerging from our recent accreditation process. It is also an opportunity to create a more unified undergraduate experience that reflects UVM values and promotes our mission. The Task Force looks forward to collaborating with UVM faculty to carefully consider, discuss, and refine this framework throughout the Spring semester.

Cc: Patricia Prelock, Provost and Senior Vice President
Thomas Chittenden, Faculty Senate President