

MINUTES
General Education Committee
December 3, 2024
9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
VL 216

Members present: Gregg Afman (Professor of Kinesiology), Alister Chapman (Professor of History), Jana Mayfield Mullen (Director, Library & Information Services), Tatiana Nazarenko (Dean of Curriculum and Educational Effectiveness), Tara Sturges (Recording Secretary, Associate Registrar), Telford Work (Chair, Professor of Religious Studies)

Absent: Michelle Hardley (Registrar)

I. Prayer – Gregg Afman

II. The minutes from November 19, 2024

The minutes from November 19, 2024 were approved.

III. The GE annual assessment report (Google Drive AN-001 syllabus; AN-001 Submission Form, ANT-001 Rationale

After discussion, the committee voted and unanimously approved the Spring 2025 section of AN-001 to fulfill the JRD GE requirement. A committee member will contact the professor with this decision. The Student Records Office will update the course section and inform the students of this update.

IV. Serving Society/Communicating Cross-Culturally graduation requirement

The committee discussed possible criteria to include in the definitions of international students, Third Culture Kid, and Poly-cultural American to assist the Student Records Office and/or Admissions in determining which students fulfill the Compassionate Action graduation requirement per their international and/or poly-cultural experiences.

Concerning international students, per feedback from Mike McKinniss, who assists international students at Westmont, the committee suggests that international students with F-1 visas automatically fulfill the Compassionate Action graduation requirement, as they are experiencing a cross-cultural experience by attending Westmont.

Concerning poly-cultural (Third Culture Kid) and poly-cultural American students, the committee discussed criteria that might define such students, which led to conversation of how to quantify students' experiences so that Student Records Office and/or Admissions staff can determine whether students completing the questionnaire actually fulfill the Compassionate Action graduation requirement. After further discussion, the committee recommended that a Google form questionnaire be created wherein incoming students respond to short-answer questions to describe their experiences in the four areas listed below. It was suggested that students who

engage in at least 80 hours in three of the four areas be allowed to fulfill the Compassionate Action graduation requirement.

- Cultural Exchange
- Cultural Immersion
- Language Practice
- Social Interaction

The committee chair will work with Leanne Dzubinski, Dean of Faculty Development and Global Education, to finalize these definitions and develop the questions for the Google form. A committee member will speak with Michelle Hardley, registrar, for feedback on the committee's suggestion on the timing of the questionnaire (e.g., at the admissions phase versus AFD phase).

V. The JRD assessment: continuation

Discussion was postponed to a future date.

VI. Other Business

None.

Respectfully submitted,

Tara Sturges