

General Education Committee Report York College Senate Meeting, May 13, 2008

Summary of General Education Committee Activity AY 2007-2008

- Considered overall goals of General Education at York and curricular implications, using General Education Mission Statement as a basis
- Read and discussed articles on General Education
- Researched and discussed several exemplary models of general education at a variety of CUNY and Non-CUNY schools
- Developed draft goals and a working vision statement to guide next year's work

Working Vision Statement

General Education at York is a transformational journey for students, faculty, and staff, integrating knowledge, competencies, and pedagogies to promote life-long learning, active world citizenship, and wise thought, action, and leadership in a global society.

Guiding Principles

- Discussions of General Education Reform must consider not only the "what" of general education (i.e., curriculum) but also the "who" and the "how."
- Full college involvement is needed for effective General Education reform.

Operational Plans for AY 2008-2009

- Next year will be designated as the Year of General Education at York. Priority of General Education will be comparable to Middle States reaccreditation process.
- Constitution of a broader General Education Steering Committee will be at the hub of General Education Reform at York in AY 2008-2009, coordinating College-Wide efforts. Committee will meet for a 1-day retreat in August to prepare the overall agenda, deliverables, and outcomes for AY 2008-2009, then meet at least every two weeks over the year, collaborating with a variety of constituencies across the College to move general education reform forward.
- Two faculty inquiry groups will be formed, one to work on quantitative literacy in the General Education curriculum, the other to work on reading, writing, critical thinking, and information literacy. These groups will collaborate actively with the General Education Steering Committee
- General Education Reform will be a central topic at Fall Convocation
- Several programs at the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning will focus on General Education issues
- Student input will be actively solicited throughout the process
- Academic Affairs update will feature a column each month on general education, and a General Education website will be inaugurated.
- College will prepare for hosting the CUNY-wide General Education Conference in Spring 2010.