Faculty Senate Committee on General Education AY 2018-2019 Progress Report William E. Kelso, Chair

The General Education (GE) program at LSU has been since its inception a distributional program whereby students take a 39-hour block of courses that gives them a content-based breadth of experiences in English Composition, Analytical Reasoning, Arts, Humanities, Natural Sciences, and Social Sciences. The renamed Integrative Learning Core (ILC) program was designed to expand the GE program by incorporating proficiencies (chosen from the AAC&U VALUE rubrics based on the results of numerous employer-based surveys of strengths and weaknesses of U.S. college graduates) that would enhance development of student knowledge and skills in critical thinking, civic engagement, ethical reasoning, global learning, intercultural knowledge and competence, inquiry and analysis, oral communication, problem solving, quantitative literacy, and written communication. It was clear at the beginning 2017-18 that the original wishes of the committee (which stemmed, in part, from previous discussions by the Strategic Planning Committee for General Education) regarding the structure of the ILC program, i.e., a 6-area GE by 10-proficiency ILC matrix that students would complete during their 39-hour program, was simply not feasible. This required a refocusing of efforts to try and develop an ILC program that could: 1) be implemented within the current General Education system; 2) be assessed more easily than the previous General Education program but would still yield meaningful data; 3) expose students to as many proficiencies as possible during their 39-hour program; and 4) improve student knowledge of, appreciation of, and basic competence in, proficiencies chosen by the ILC committee.

The committee was busy during the 2018-19 AY and made significant progress in implementing the ILC program at LSU. Important accomplishments include:

- 1. Removal of critical thinking from the list of proficiencies. After considerable discussion, we decided that critical thinking was an integral part of all college level courses, and hence was not something that probably needed to be formally included in the ILC program. From a practical standpoint, we also didn't want a large majority of ILC courses choosing this proficiency and ignoring others, such as ethical reasoning, global learning, and intercultural knowledge and competence, which clearly need increased emphasis at LSU. This exclusion may need to be revised in 2019-20 based on discussions with Philosophy, but will likely at most be a restricted option for philosophy courses.
- 2. Development of the course submission protocols for ILC courses. Progress in this area was greatly enhanced by the efforts of Dr. Tara Rose and the OIE during 2018-19. We are continuing the 5-year recertification process that was used in the GE program. Beginning in Spring 2019, no new or re-certified courses will be accepted as GE courses, i.e., all must adhere to the ILC guidelines. Courses submitted for approval must choose a GE area, as well as an ILC primary proficiency from the current list. Additional information in the proposal includes a justification for this proficiency, pedagogies employed to address the proficiency, and a description of how the proficiency will be integrated into the course so as to comprise 20% of course content and 20% of course grade (similar to CxC courses). Secondary and tertiary proficiencies can also be specified, although these will not be assessed. We included this option because we wanted to collect data over the next 2-3 years regarding which proficiencies students are being exposed to, even if they are not the focus of the ILC portion of the course. All of the application materials, along with numerous examples and background resources have been placed on the ILC website, along with answers to FAQs that have arisen through the process. The forms needed to submit

a course to the ILC are in a Qualtrics survey format on the ILC website and have been reviewed and modified to increase clarity, meaningful content, and ease of understanding.

- 3. Revamping of assessment procedures for ILC courses. Prior assessment of GE courses through Taskstream was an overly tedious and redundant process. The ILC created an Assessment Subcommittee to simplify and streamline ILC course assessment, which now consists of an instructor-driven process with considerable latitude regarding the assessment instrument(s) and procedures. Data will be collected by instructors each semester the course is taught, with 3-year review of the results and possible changes to content/pedagogy to improve delivery and/or student achievement of the proficiencies. Members of the Assessment Subcommittee included: Chair Dr. Robbie Hogan (Political Science), Dr. William Wischusen (Biology), Dr. Jennifer Baumgartner (CxC), Dr. Emily Elliott (Psychology), and Dr. Tara Rose (Office of Institutional Effectiveness).
- 4. Reviewing and refining the ILC process. Five (5) courses were submitted for ILC review, which allowed the committee to review and refine the process and make sure the information being submitted was necessary and supplied the desired information.
- 5. The Faculty Senate General Education Committee was renamed to the Faculty Senate Integrative Learning Core (FSILC) Committee effective Spring 2019.

2018-2019 Members

Member	College	Email	Term Ends
Robbie Hogan	Humanities and Social Sciences	rhogan1@lsu.edu	2020
Robert Holton	Art and Design	kbenham1@lsu.edu	2019
Bill Kelso	Agriculture	wkelso@lsu.edu	2019
Espen Lilleslatten	Music and Dramatic Arts	espen@lsu.edu	2019
Elecia Lathon	Education	ebrown4@lsu.edu	2020
James Ottea	Agriculture	jottea@lsu.edu	2020
Charles Roussel	Business	crouss5@lsu.edu	2020
John Scalzo	Engineering	jscalz1@lsu.edu	2020
Erin Coyle	Mass Communications	ekcoyle@lsu.edu	2021
Carol Wicks	Science	cwicks@lsu,edu	2019
Vince Wilson	Coast and Environment	vwilson@lsu.edu	2019
Matthew Lee	Office of Academic Affairs	mlee@lsu.edu	Ex officio
Sandi Gillilan	Institutional Effectiveness	sgillilan@lsu.edu	Ex officio
<u>Tara Rose</u>	Director of Assessment	trose@lsu.edu	Ex officio

Faculty Senate Integrative Learning Core Committee Plans for AY 2019-2020

- 1. We are now ready to accept additional courses for review and approval, and it is hoped that over the next 2 years we will be able to process a majority of ILC course proposals (gen ed courses that have/are/will come up for re-approval). With over 280 active general education courses, all of which will need to be re-certified as ILC, the committee will be busy. The overall date of final implementation of the ILC program is 2022, and it is anticipated that procedures will continue to be fine-tuned as we move through the process.
- 2. Determine vacant seats for the upcoming year.
- 3. Review the charge and operating procedures of the committee and update as needed.

The FSILC Committee voted Dr. William Kelso as Chair for the upcoming 2019-20 academic year.

2019-2020 Members

Member	College	Email	Term Ends
Robbie Hogan	Humanities and Social Sciences	rhogan1@lsu.edu	2020
Kevin Benham	Art and Design	kbenham1@lsu.edu	2022
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Justin West	Music and Dramatic Arts	west1@lsu.edu	2022
Elecia Lathon	Education	ebrown4@lsu.edu	2020
James Ottea	Honors	jottea@lsu.edu	2022
VACANT	Business	VACANT	VACANT
John Scalzo	Engineering	jscalz1@lsu.edu	2020
Erin Coyle	Mass Communications	ekcoyle@lsu.edu	2021
VACANT	Science	VACANT	VACANT
VACANT	Coast and Environment	VACANT	VACANT
Matthew Lee	Office of Academic Affairs	mlee@lsu.edu	Ex officio
Sandi Gillilan	Institutional Effectiveness	sgillilan@lsu.edu	Ex officio
Tara Rose	Director of Assessment	trose@lsu.edu	Ex officio
Andrea Abad	University Registrar	abode@lsu.edu	Ex officio
Clay Benton	University Registrar	cbenton@lsu.edu	Ex officio