General Education Motions

General:
The motions are mostly independent of each other, but optimally designed to work together. The motions will be voted on independently from each other. The results of this discussion and vote will be forwarded to the GECC and the curriculum committees for further discussion and approvals.

The general plan for improving the GE program has the following steps:

1. Obtain general consensus on the motions from the Governing Faculty
2. Send agreed upon motions to the individual unit curriculum committees for discussion and approval
3. Select the director
4. Develop an assessment plan to measure goals and outcomes
5. Commence a resubmission process for all GE courses to align with recommendations and assessment plan. The purpose of the resubmission is not to eliminate courses, but to get the courses aligned with faculty-approved changes in the Gen Ed program.

Motions with Rationale:

1. Appoint a faculty member to be the director of the Gen Ed Program.
   This person should be a faculty member who has taught Gen Ed course(s) and has a passion for developing, coordinating, and assessing the Gen Ed program.

2. Agree that each unit curriculum committee review and consider the revised Gen Ed designation definitions before the Governing Faculty vote on acceptance.

   The faculty survey and ad hoc committee identified the original Gen Ed designation definitions as vague and in need of improvement. The ad hoc committee examined each definition and revised them based on input from faculty who teach in the designation areas. The goal was to provide more concise language so as to reduce ambiguity in application of these definitions. Due to the extensive revisions, GECC recommends the Governing Faculty agree to have the definitions reviewed and considered by the individual unit curriculum committees before a final recommendation to accept is made to the Governing Faculty.

3. Reduce the current 12 Gen Ed learning outcomes (GELOs) to 10 GELOs.

   The two GELOs to remove are numbers 8 and 9. These GELOs are based on specific content knowledge, rather than a general education learning outcomes. These learning outcomes are: (8) demonstrate knowledge of culture and the arts, social structure and
process, and the physical and natural world; (9) demonstrate knowledge of economics, finance, and quantitative literacy; health and well-being; and science and technology.

Since all Gen Ed courses emphasize knowledge, these learning outcomes are redundant.

4. Agree that each unit curriculum committee review and consider the Gen Ed learning outcomes as revised by the ad hoc committee before the Governing Faculty vote on acceptance.

The ad hoc committee reviewed and proposed revisions to the learning outcomes and their respective rubrics. The goal was to provide more concise language so as to reduce ambiguity in application of the outcomes and rubrics. Due to the extensive revisions, GECC recommends the Governing Faculty agree to have the learning goals and rubrics reviewed and considered by the individual curriculum committees before a final recommendation to accept is made to the Governing Faculty.

5. Recommend the director and GECC work to incentivize programs and schools to encourage students to broaden their course selections across multiple departments and schools.

If General Education means providing a broad, well-rounded education, then students should be encouraged to take general education courses across departments (or schools). GECC encourages programs review how they are using the Gen Ed designations to meet Gen Ed requirements.

6. Recommend GECC and the director work on an assessment plan for:
   (1) Assessing learning outcomes and revising GELOs
   (2) Assessing Gen Ed courses in effectiveness and compliance with Gen Ed program goals
   (3) Assessing overall effectiveness of the General Education program

As assessment follows from the goals and learning outcomes, we recommend the director work with GECC to review the goals and learning outcomes of Gen Ed courses, thus developing the assessment plan for these goals and outcomes.

7. Recommend Gen Ed courses be revised and go through a resubmission process to align the course to the new learning outcomes and goals. GECC will oversee the resubmission process. The process will take place once a director is identified.

The resubmission process allows faculty to re-evaluate their current course(s) with the chance to improve them.