MCC General Education Policy

Executive Summary of Feedback Received from the Policy Portal

Three individuals submitted comments in the policy portal during the General Education Policy and Procedure comment period. There were a total of 6 separate comments/questions that are addressed below.

1. Relationship to SUNY General Education

A question was raised as to whether SUNY General Education credits completed at other institutions would be added to the MCC transcript and/or the General Education Transcript Addendum (GETA).

Administrative Response:

Associate Director, Registration & Records, Taine Vinci, confirmed that even if the transfer equivalent at MCC is not a SUNY Gen Ed, the course would satisfy the SUNY Gen Ed since it did at the other institution. The course would be added to the GETA if the student obtained a passing grade (D- or higher). No changes to either the policy or procedure were made.

2. Confirmation of faculty role in development of the General Education Policy

One respondent commented about the various documents that define and outline the role of faculty in policy development and, in particular, policy related to curriculum.

Administrative Response: Development of this policy was led by the Faculty Senate through their existing processes and is compliant with other SUNY and MCC policies and contracts. No changes to either the policy or procedure were made.

3. Purpose of General Education

A suggestion was made to use the terminology from Middle States' Standard III in defining the purpose of General Education.

Administrative Response: The Policy Statement will be edited with the recommended change from Standard III as follows:

POLICY STATEMENT

Monroe Community College is committed to offering a general education program that complies with applicable state, federal, SUNY, and accreditation standards, laws, and regulations. The MCC general education program mirrors the Middle States Standard III and is designed to ensure that all students, regardless of their chosen degree program, acquire the knowledge, skills and competencies that will draw students into new areas of intellectual experience by offering a curriculum designed so that students can acquire and demonstrate essential skills.

4. Use of the term "Institutional Learning Outcomes":

One respondent noted that the term "Institutional Learning Outcome (ILO)" was no longer explicitly used in the relevant Middle States Standard and suggested that it be replaced with "clearly stated educational goals at the institution and degree/program levels."

Administrative Response: Although the ILO term is no longer explicitly stated within the Middle States Standard, it is still used by the vast majority of higher education institutions. This can be revisited at the next policy review to see if another term should be used. The documents will, however, be revised for consistency in the definition of ILO used in both the policy and procedure.

5. Requirement to repeat courses with similar curricular content

There was a request for confirmation that under "Transfer of the SUNY-GER—SUNY Trustees Resolution 2009-138," students transferring with or without a SUNY A.A. or A.S. degree will receive full credit for general education courses successfully completed (i.e., for which credit was awarded at the prior institution) and will not be required to repeat successfully completed courses with similar curricular content.

Administrative Response:

SUNY's policy states that students will not be required to repeat successfully completed courses with similar curricular content. No changes to either the policy or procedure were made.

6. Requirement to repeat courses with similar curricular content

A question was raised about whether MCC would waive our local MCC-GER for transfer students who have completed the SUNY-GER.

Administrative Response:

SUNY's policy states that students transferring with or without a SUNY A.A. or A.S. degree will receive full credit for general education courses successfully completed (i.e., for which credit was awarded at the prior institution) and will not be required to repeat successfully completed courses with similar curricular content. This means that transfer students who meet the 30-credit SUNY-GER at sending campuses shall be deemed to have met the 30-credit SUNY-GER at a receiving campus. Similarly, transfer students who meet a SUNY-GER area at sending campuses shall be deemed to have met that SUNY-GER area at a receiving campus. As feasible, to promote student mobility and timely degree attainment, a receiving campus shall waive local and programmatic requirements for transfer students who have completed the 30-credit SUNY-GER or who have met a SUNY-GER area that is comparable to a local or programmatic requirement. MCC must comply with this policy and no changes will be made to the policy.