

UNC GREENSBORO
GENERAL EDUCATION COUNCIL
MINUTES
Friday, August 22, 2025
1:30 - 3:30 PM • 2711 MHRA

Members Present: Jessica McCall (Chair), Jim Coleman, Jasmine DeJesus, Hannah Grannemann, Veronica Grossi, Della Hawes (for Kara Bisceglie), Amy Harris Houk, Izzet Lofca, Jessica Obermeyer, Jodi Pettazzoni, Dana Saunders, Yi Zhang

Members Absent: Hunter Bacot, Kara Bisceglie, Angela Bolte, Kristie Davis-Collins, Daniel Huebner, Jeff Sarbaum

AGENDA ITEMS:

I. Welcome and Introductions

Chair welcomed everyone and thanked them for agreeing to serve. Self-introductions followed.

II. Orientation to the General Education Council

Council members reviewed the General Education Council Member's Guide (meeting preparation, meeting flow, voting, etc.). The chair emphasized the importance of the Council's charge and reminded members that the general education program was changed to a competency-based program in fall 2021. Current membership still reflects the previous gen ed program (individual college/school representation) rather than representation from each of the competencies. Council members should be familiar with MAC competencies; resources are available in SharePoint. Council business includes:

- Review of student/advisor appeals
- Review of MAC course proposals
- Recertification and assessment
- Policies

Meetings are face to face and members are asked to identify a proxy if they will miss more than three consecutive meetings. Members are asked to review and comment on meeting materials (in SharePoint) prior to the meeting.

Subcommittee opportunities:

- Recertification
- MAC Program Review
- Others as needed.

Curriculum submission deadline for the 2026-27 catalog is November 10, 2025.

Dana Saunders shared an overview of the General Education credit appeals process. The council will review appeals that are curricular in nature (transfer courses that do not have a current equivalency). Transfer considerations:

- The UNC System policy states that we consider 70% alignment for these courses.
- Foundational (100-200 level)
- Three credit hours

III. Approval of Minutes from April 25, 2025; summer approval report

Motion to approve April 25, 2025, meeting minutes (Coleman, Harris Houk), motion approved with two abstentions. Motion to approve summer approval report (Coleman, Grossi), motion approved.

IV. MAC Appeals

- 1784 – Request to allow BIO 1030 to satisfy MAC Health & Wellness competency.
Action: Motion to Approve (Grossi, Harris Houk), motion approved.
- 1843 – Request to allow COMM 1001 to satisfy MAC Oral Communication competency.
Action: Motion to Approve (Coleman, Harris Houk), motion approved.
- 1857 – Request to allow BIOL 100 to satisfy MAC Critical Thinking and Inquiry in the Natural Sciences competency.
Action: Motion to Table (Grossi, Harris Houk), motion approved. Request additional documentation (syllabus/assignments) to demonstrate critical thinking.

Council members discussed the appeal form/process. Suggestion to revise the submission form:

- Ask the advisor to make a direct connection with SLOs.
- Explicitly address the 70% rule
- Require evidence of SLO alignment (best evidence is a syllabus, work product)

The role of the advisor is to help the student get the petition to Council rather than evaluating the quality of the appeal. Suggestion to provide an example of a successful appeal.

Dana advised that a revised form would be available soon.

V. Data Analysis Pilot

- Draft Rubric

Council has approved a spring pilot to expand Data Analysis to Social and Behavioral Sciences. Jodi advised this is mostly a data driven consideration. When the Data analysis competency was created, there was a lot of conversation about whether it should just be in the natural sciences or not. We have found that the natural sciences are not able to offer enough seats to deliver to all the students in the MAC program that need to complete this competency. After a lengthy conversation, the Council decided to pilot Data Analysis in the Social & Behavioral Sciences this spring to collect data to ensure student learning. The pilot courses will be new courses rather than existing courses. Discussion followed about the definition of data, quantitative and qualitative analysis, conversations with natural science departments, existing data analysis courses.

The chair shared a draft version of a Senate resolution to expand the Data Analysis competency.

Members are asked to provide feedback on the resolution no later than August 27, 2025.

VI. Civics & Community rubric

Council members reviewed the Civics & Community DRAFT rubric. SLOs 1 and 2 are critical thinking outcomes, SLOs 3 and 4 incorporate the required Foundations of American Democracy readings. Level two is the MAC competence level and aligns with other foundational rubrics. Discussion about the documents listed in SLOs 3 and 4, would this cause complications for faculty creating assignments?

The Chair would like to share this rubric with faculty teaching in this competency, members are asked to review and provide feedback as soon as possible so that the Council can approve the rubric at their September 26 meeting.

VII. Recertification & Assessment

- Fall assessment:
 - Foundations
 - Health & Wellness
 - Data Analysis
 - Quantitative Reasoning
- Recertification:
 - Global Engagement & Intercultural Learning
 - Oral Communication
 - Written Communication
 - Critical Thinking and Inquiry in the Humanities & Fine Arts
 - Critical Thinking and Inquiry in the Natural Sciences
 - Critical Thinking and Inquiry in the Social & Behavioral Sciences

Training will be available for faculty participating in the assessment process.

VIII. Holistic Program Evaluation

Jodi advised that the faculty have asked that the MAC program be reviewed holistically, which is a best practice. A lead program evaluator in the Educational Research Methodology Program has shared a protocol for the review.

The holistic review will include conversations with students, faculty, and administrators. We are committed to this general education program; what we are looking for is how to better serve our students through the MAC program. We expect the process to take the entire year. We will analyze and evaluate it as a group and present it to campus with recommendations about where we need to make adjustments.

IX. Alumni Fund for the Enrichment of Liberal Arts Education

Chair reminded Council members that last year, an alumni fund was created to support general education. Members reviewed and provided feedback on the draft campus communication, including application guidelines:

- Include examples of projects.
- Budget
- Anticipated outcomes & how they will be assessed.
- Could this be funded with existing funds?
- Direct impact/benefit to students
- Long term impact?

The submission deadline will be October 20, 2025, to allow time for Council to review the proposals.

Chair asked for a volunteer to serve on the SLEC committee.