GENERAL EDUCATION AT CAL POLY
ACADEMIC SENATE RETREAT
FALL 2017

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GE PROGRAM REVIEW: TIMELINE

- Summer 2014-Fall 2016: GE Self Study
- Winter 2016: Program Reviewers Visit Campus (two reviewers represented the Humanities; two reviewers represented science and math)
- April 2016: Program Reviewers Submit Report
- May 2016: GEGB Responds to Report
- Fall/Winter 2017: Provost Creates the GE Task Force
PROGRAM REVIEW & SELF STUDY: KEY FINDINGS

- Writing is not happening in all GE courses, and some writing-intensive courses do not support development of writing skills in substantive ways.
- Bring more variety, diversity, and flexibility into GE course offerings.
- Students want to be intentional about GE, but feel that major requirements sometimes make that difficult.
- Not all faculty/staff/advisors appear to promote GE as an essential element of Cal Poly’s curriculum.
- Identify places in GE courses where diversity learning can be scaffolded.
PROGRAM REVIEW: RECOMMENDATIONS

- Build connections into the structures of both GE and major programs –transferability of knowledge and skills.
- Increase coherence between GE and major courses.
- Provide opportunities for students to explore big questions from multiple disciplinary perspectives across GE areas.
- Increase flexibility in requirements and availability of popular courses.
- Reduce scheduling conflicts with major courses; schedule GE courses at more appealing times.
- Incorporate more “Learn-By-Doing” pedagogies in GE.
- Make the goals of GE more transparent.
- Develop and implement “GE Course Renewal” Process.
“Many of our recommendations will require greater investment in terms of faculty and staff time and other resources. Curriculum change is sensitive because it affects faculty workloads, student enrollments and associated funding, and other vested interests. The GEGB and other academic leaders must decide which ideas are most realistic, given campus culture and resources...The GE program is central to Cal Poly’s mission and objectives, so we believe that it is important to make a commitment to meaningful change.”
GE AT CAL POLY

Each working group today will be given:

- GE Mission Statement
- The GE Program Learning Outcomes
- GE Program Goals