

General Education Committee  
Minutes

January 23, 2018

Present: Tien Chih  
Melinda Tilton  
Matthew Queen  
Tom Regele  
Cori Hart  
Brenna Beckett (student)  
Bernie Quetchenbach  
Jim Barron  
Emily Arendt  
Leanne Gilbertson  
Scott Harris  
Tara Haupt (ex officio)

Absent: John Roberts\*  
Lance Mouser\*  
Shayla Garman (student)  
Rebecca Muller  
Megan Thomas\*

\*excused

---

Jim Barron called the meeting to order at 8:20 a.m. in the SUB Missouri room

The minutes of December were accepted as presented.

I. ASSESSMENT UPDATE / VICE PROVOST REPORT

Dr. Barron reported that, in December, the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate urged the GEC chairs to meet with Vice Provost Matt Redinger and Registrar Johannes to figure out how to encourage students to take the ETS test in the Spring semester. The Admissions Office already sends letters to students in January, if they will be seniors the following Fall, advising them about applying for graduation and other concerns. This is around 700 students this year. The idea is the GEC send an additional letter to these students, informing them they will be required to take the ETS test before they will be allowed to register for Fall 2018 (registration March 19). This is known as a registration hold. However, students will not be told that this is a fake hold. No students will actually be held from registration. Dr. Barron and Ms. Tilton put together a letter to faculty and deans, urging them to encourage students to get the testing done. Students will be able to take the test online, unproctored, at no cost. Two campus sessions will be offered in February, in case anyone wants to take it in person. These students, at the time of testing, will be juniors rather than seniors. It was noted that this seemed to be the best option for Spring, since creating a real hold would take too much time, as would building a box in DegreeWorks.

It was stated that this is an ethical issue. ~~if gets~~ out, and it will, that we have threatened our students with a fake registration hold, our credibility will go down and we may even lose students as a result.

We still have issues with a graduation requirement, not the least of which is ~~the Senate~~ opposed to the idea. A random sampling of seniors is unfair to students (some must take a two-