

## **Objective of action plan: Engage faculty, students, administration in curricular reform in order to generate well integrated general education + major curriculum**

### **Steps:**

**I. Take proposed action plan back to GERC, Faculty Senate Administrative Committee, Provost, Deans Council for input and (we REALLY hope) approval**

**II. Request formation of a new Academic Structure, headed by a full-time 'Dean of University Studies'**

a. This person would have the full time job of inspiring, advocating for, leading, supervising, assessing....courses that are part of the University Studies program.

b. This person would play a vital role in making 'University Studies' at UAF something the faculty and students would be proud of.... and would serve as a recruiting tool

c. Details to be negotiated among Provost, Chancellor, etc..but get the ball rolling for something along these lines NOW

### **III. Campus-wide discussion**

- a. Starts with email to faculty articulating a new philosophy of gen ed. and stating "we will be conducting a referendum in Oct." Publish materials on the web and in Sun Star and Cornerstone. Finally, we will hold a series of discussion meetings to more fully engage the university community in this process. These will be done on a school/college basis.
- b. Chancellor will announce (and promote!) such in his Convocation address to Faculty
- c. Individual deans will announce (and promote!) such in their Convocation Addresses and they will pass out the referendum (again).
- d. There will be forums, one for each school/college. Members of GERC and/or the 'turf valley 5' will attend each. One will serve as moderator. Further, at these sessions we also identify faculty interested in working on GE curriculum.
- e. We will request 15 minutes of class time during September from each instructor of a current core course to initiate dialog with students. We will start with the "elevator speech" about curriculum revision, and solicit their oral and written feedback. We will also provide them with web addresses for both additional information and opportunities for providing feedback.
- f. Hookups for audioconferencing will be made for at least some
- g. prepare FAQ ....possibly as a sheet to be given out with the convocations???

### **IV. Faculty-wide GEN-ED referendum (early October)**

- a. Formal reason is to determine faculty support for proposed changes to the core curriculum and general education goals and philosophies.
- b. MOTIVE: while reducing credits, faculty will redesign the GEN ED program so as to better meet overall objectives of critical reasoning, analytical thinking, and communication skills as well as incorporate the objectives (globalization, sustainability, civic engagement, diversity



b. solicit student input in the design of the general education requirements

c. take advantage of current student involvement in service learning, civic engagement, co-curricular activities

**IX. Conference among departmental assessment chairpersons--perhaps especially related to University St**

**General education objectives and learning outcomes for the undergraduate students seeking Baccalaureate, AA, and AS degrees at the University of Alaska Fairbanks:**

1. **Build Knowledge of Human Institutions, Socio-Cultural Processes, and the Physical and Natural World** through study of the natural and social sciences, technologies, mathematics, humanities, histories, languages and the arts.

Competence will be demonstrated for the foundational information in each subject area, its context and significance, and the methods used in advancing each.

2. **Develop Intellectual and Practical Skills across the curriculum**, including inquiry and analysis, critical and creative thinking, problem solving, written and oral communication, information literacy, technological competence, and collaborative learning.

Proficiency will be demonstrated across the curriculum through critical analysis of proffered information, well-reasoned solutions to problems or inferences drawn from evidence, effective written and oral communication, and satisfactory outcomes of group projects.

3. **Acquire Tools for Effective Civic Engagement** in local through global contexts, including ethical reasoning, intercultural competence, and knowledge of Alaska and Alaskan issues.

Facility will be demonstrated through analyses of issues including dimensions of ethics, human and cultural diversity, conflicts and interdependencies, globalization, and sustan7ons of et and

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