**Committee Name: General Education Council  
Subject: End of Year Report to the Senate  
Date: March 29, 2016  
Chair: Michael Burgmeier**

***Council Members:***   
Michael Burgmeier (AIS), General Education Council Chair 2015-16, Business/AIS Representative  
Andrew Poe (Math & CS), Arts & Sciences Representative   
David Donovan (Physics), Arts & Sciences Representative  
Alper Camlibel (Criminal Justice), Health Sciences and Professional Studies Representative  
Kristen Smith (Nursing), Health Sciences and Professional Studies Representative  
Brian Zinser (Business), At Large Faculty Representative  
Mark Smith (English), At Large Faculty Representative   
Robert Winn, Associate Dean for General Education & Retention   
Kim Barron, Director of Institutional Assessment & Accreditation   
Kim Rotundo, Registrar  
Katherina Klawes, Student representative  
Taylor Preul, Student representative

***Meetings:***

As of March 29, 2016, the GEC has met for 12 formal meetings (26 hrs), with two more remaining meetings this semester. Additionally, GEC members conducted two Open Office Hour events (4 hrs) during AY2015-16. The GEC chair and the Associate Dean for General Education have also met privately with faculty and/or departments, primarily for the purpose of giving guidance and feedback on GEC matters.

***Council Activities and Accomplishments:***

* Review of proposals for course inclusion in General Education;
  + For 2015-16, we received 22 new and 38 revised proposals. Each proposal is read and discussed by all GEC members prior to final consideration.
  + As of 3/29/16, 144 courses have been approved for inclusion in the General Education Program. 31 additional courses are currently under revision by departments following GEC review. We also approve three General Education courses for World Cultures credit.
* We proposed that the General Education Program be implemented with the start of the fall 2017 semester in order to provide more time to approve additional courses to fill out the program. This proposal has been approved by the Senate and the Provost. We also worked with departments whose curriculum was greatly impacted by this change to allow a certain number of courses to be eligible for Liberal Studies credit.
* We continued to provide assistance to the English and Math/CS departments as they work on implementing the new University Graduation Requirements based in those departments.
* We have developed a plan for assessing courses in the General Education Program including a General Education Assessment Report form. Following final approval in the next few weeks, this plan/form will be shared with the campus community and made available on the GEC web site.
* We submitted a proposal that the Health Promotion requirements (HP 200 and a second activity course) be eliminated as graduation requirements. This would apply to students that begin attendance at Northern starting Fall 2016. All remaining current students will need to complete the requirement. This proposal has been approved by the Senate and the Provost.
* We continue to update the GEC web site with information regarding the General Education Program.

***Leadership for Academic Year 2016-17:*** Election of the 2016-17 GEC chair will take place at the last meeting of the year, April 18.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Michael Burgmeier  
GEC Chair 2015-16*