General Education Committee (GEC) Report (April 2012)

Following the University Senate's approval of the WKU Colonnade Program, the Provost requested that the GEC consider several proposed changes to or clarifications of the Program. The GEC met with the Provost at its April meeting to discuss the Program. As a result of our discussions, the GEC voted to forward four suggested changes or clarifications to the University Senate for approval.

The GEC voted to send forward motions that, if approved, will:

- Indicate explicitly that implementation of the WKU Colonnade Program will occur in fall 2014, not fall 2013;
- Raise the World Language Proficiency standard from "novice mid" to "novice high;"
- Remove the upper-division requirement for the "Connections" courses by altering the WKU Colonnade Program rules to indicate that "Connections" courses must be numbered 200 or above;
- Modify the language in the "Connections" description to define more clearly what a "discipline" is.

During the April meeting, GEC committee members expressed that that proposed changes and clarifications respond directly to many of the significant, meaningful issues (transfer students, upper-level course degree requirements, implementation timeline, and world language standards) raised by senators at the March University Senate meeting and to issues raised by the Provost. GEC committee members also expressed that that the above changes will maintain the spirit, purposes, and overall structure of the WKU Colonnade Program the University Senate passed in March.