

Common Program Oversight Committee (CPOC)
Academic Year 2011-2012 Report

The committee was chaired initially by Dr. Michael Hampton, Director of Interdisciplinary Studies, as the designee of Interim Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Studies, Dr. Elliot Vittes. After Dr. Hampton's resignation as chair in February, 2012, the Dr. Vittes assumed the chair.

The committee began the year with a charge from the Dr. Vittes to review the General Education Program (GEP) in all respects. They were asked to engage in a thorough investigation of both the content of the GEP and its administration (i.e., how rigidly it should be enforced, in terms of course substitution). The committee held a session during the FCTL Winter Conference to begin generating feedback from faculty.

From that review, the committee developed a draft mission statement. They developed a draft of learning outcomes for the GEP program, going beyond the outcomes associated with each GEP course. This practice is done elsewhere, and may be expected from SACS soon. The committee also agreed upon the desirability of a capstone course or experience that would help unify the GEP as a program.

In the interim, the state legislature passed legislation (later signed into law by the governor) that fundamentally altered the GEP in the SUS and the FCS. It reduced the credit hours from 36 to 30, with 15 of those 30 credit hours being standardized (in terms of range of choices) among the SUS and FCS. This change will be effective for the 2014 academic year.

During the year, the committee also completed its usual review of Gordon Rule courses and GEP requests. The final meeting of the year on April 19, 2012, included two students who discussed their experience at UCF in GEP courses and what it meant to their educational and career development.