General Education Proposal

Phase I

1. The previously accepted 5 Student Learning Outcomes and their definitions will be presented to the faculty for official approval/ratification thus replacing the 9 skills currently listed in the Catalog. (Projected Date: Fall, 2013)

2. The following expectations will be required of all current and future General Distribution (Arts and Humanities, Social Sciences, Natural Sciences and Mathematics) and Core Courses at Washburn. [Core definition: Courses required of all degrees. All students must complete the Core Courses with a grade of C or better.]
   A. Each course will identify a primary SLO. (Projected Date for submission to the Gen Ed Committee: Fall 2013)
   B. Each course will include objectives relating to the SLO.
   C. A substantial portion (a minimum of 30% is recommended) of the course content and therefore the assessment process should relate to the SLO.
   D. Regarding the SLO assessments occurring at the course level, a process for making the analyzed data available to instructors and departments will be developed. The rationale based on this analysis pertaining to course changes will be presented to the Assessment Committee, Units and Schools.
   E. Data relating to assessing the course SLO objectives will be shared with an assessment coordinator for use by the department in HLC datasets and the general education 5-year course review.

3. To guarantee assessment expertise on the General Education Committee two representatives from the Assessment committee will be appointed to serve on the General Education Committee to provide expertise on the course SLO assessment.

4. Phase I will be anticipated effective Fall 2013.
Phase II

1. In addition to the assessment processes taking place at the General Distribution level (See Phase I, Point 2), an overarching assessment process will be presented by December 2012, relating to proposed entry and/or exit capabilities of Washburn students on the SLOs.

Phase III

1. Based on data from both the overarching assessment process and the course-based process, recommendations will be made by September, 2015 as to specific potential General Education course requirements (e.g., Should each student take at least one course in each SLO area as part of the General Distribution requirement, Are core courses sufficient and appropriate based on learning outcomes, etc.). The General Education “Core” (those courses [or transfer equivalents] required of all Washburn students) will be reviewed. The current core includes EN 101/300; MA 110/116; and KN 198.

2. Based on data from both the overarching assessment process and the course-based process, recommendations will be made by September, 2015 as to the specific potential Major Area course requirements (e.g., each student must take at least one course in three SLO areas as part of the Major Area of study).

3. This change in general education provides an excellent opportunity for each academic unit to review their existing general distribution groupings and determine whether any changes should be submitted through the governance process for approval.