

17 January 2011

TO: Candace Barrington  
President, Faculty Senate  
FROM: Robert Wolff  
Chair, Faculty Senate Ad-Hoc Committee on General Education  
RE: Report of Ad-Hoc Committee

The Faculty Senate established the Ad-Hoc Committee on General Education in October 2010 (see Faculty Senate Motion 10.11.007B). The members of the committee are as follows:

- Robert Wolff (A&S, History)
- Mary Anne Nunn (A&S, English)
- Tim Reagan (SEPS, Teacher Education)
- Olga Petkova (SOB, MIS)
- Paul Resetarits (SET, Manufacturing and Construction Management)
- Thomas Burkholder (A&S, Chemistry and former chair of Curriculum Committee)
- Rachel Siporin (A&S, Art)

The Senate asked the Committee to ascertain “whether there is a need and/or desire to redesign the General Education program at CCSU.” To that end, the Committee conducted an electronic survey (see copy attached) on December 6-13, 2010. The CCSU President’s Office distributed the survey via email to all Academic and Administrative Departments in the University. The Committee received 230 responses to this survey.

Overall, 61.3% of respondents (141/230) agree or strongly agree that the General Education program should be re-designed. Looking more closely at AAUP Full-time faculty, those most responsible for the content of General Education, 65.6% (109/166) agree or strongly agree. These results are detailed in the table below. The Committee also reviewed 137 responses to an open-ended question about General Education included in the electronic survey. Based on the results of this survey, the Committee believes that “there is a need and/or desire to redesign the General Education program at CCSU.”

	N	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Blank
AAUP Full-time	166	18 (10.8%)	10 (6.0%)	28 (16.9%)	54 (32.5%)	55 (33.1%)	1
AAUP Part-time	31	0	2 (6.5)	18 (58.1)	8 (25.8)	2 (6.5)	1
SUOAF-AFSCME	22	0	1 (4.5)	5 (22.7)	11 (50.0)	5 (22.7)	
Other	11	0	0	5 (45.5)	4 (36.4)	2 (18.2)	
Totals	230	18 (7.89)	13 (5.70)	56 (24.56)	77 (33.77)	64 (28.07)	

Finally, the Committee asked Dr. Marc Goldstein (A&S, Psychology) to review the survey prior to its distribution. On behalf of the Committee, I would like to thank Dr. Goldstein for his guidance in matters of survey methodology.

## A Short General Education Survey

Page 1

1. Select the category below that describes your position at CCSU.

- ☐ AAUP (Full-time)  
☐ AAUP (Part-time)  
☐ SUOAF-AFSCME  
☐ Other

2. Please respond to the following statement.

**Strongly disagree**   **Disagree**   **Neither agree nor disagree**   **Agree**   **Strongly Agree**

The General Education program should be re-designed.

☐☐☐☐☐

3. What information or ideas about general education do you wish to share with the committee?

Please feel free to comment on the existing General Education program or propose an alternate vision for General Education.