

First-Year Council
October 24, 2014, 3:00-4:00pm, University Hall 113

Membership of First-Year Council for 2014-2015 *(listed alphabetically)*

Rotating Members

Mr. Mark Biggs, Professor, COAL (member through 2015)
Dr. Jeffrey Cornelius-White, COE(member through 2017)
Dr. Clay Franklin, Associate Professor, CHHS (member through 2016)
Dr. Olen Greer, Professor, COB (member through 2015)
Crystal Gale, Associate Professor, LIBR (chair through 2015)
Scott Handley, Assistant Director, Honors College (member through 2017)
Dr. Stephanie Hein CNAS (member through 2017)
Dr. Thomas Lane, Assistant Vice President Student Life (member through 2016)
TBA, Student Representative (member through 2015)
Dr. Jim Moyer, Professor, CHPA (member through 2015)

Ex-Officio Members

Dr. Rachelle Darabi, Associate Provost, Student Development and Public Affairs (standing member)
Dr. Mike Wood, Director, First-Year Programs (standing member)

Council Charge: To advise the Director of First-Year Programs and the Associate Provost for Student Development and Public Affairs on initiatives involving the first-year experience (FYE) at Missouri State University. This includes, but is not limited to: 1) developing a first-year philosophy statement and overarching goals for the program; 2) evaluating the effectiveness of GEP 101, and making recommendations to the Director concerning changes to the course designed to increase academic excellence, enhance student success, and integrate the public affairs mission; 3) providing assistance with the learning communities and common reader programs; and 4) serving as a liaison with other departments/colleges/student affairs as part of a larger effort to inform and address issues involving first-year students.

Agenda

- I. Convene meeting— The Chair Crystal Gale brought the meeting to order at 3:06.
 - a. Members in attendance: Jef Cornelius-White, Clay Franklin, Olen Greer, Crystal Gale, Stephanie Hein, Thomas Lane, Jim Moyer, and Mike Wood.
 - b. Members not in attendance: Mark Biggs, Scott Handley, and Rachelle Darabi.
- II. Approval of minutes from last meeting
 - a. Jim motioned.
 - b. Thomas seconded.
- III. Updates:
 - a. Meeting with President Smart and Provost Einhellig about GEP 101/ Discussion of 4 hour service requirement addition
 - i. Mike, Crystal, Tracey, Rachelle, and Thomas met with President/Provost to define what GEP 101 as a signature course should look like→President/Provost defined signature as more of a focus on retention
 - ii. Mike suggested a four-hour public affairs service activity as a requirement for all GEP 101 sections
 - iii. Overall, it seemed like a positive meeting with the President’s support

- b. Living-learning initiative update (Thomas)
 - i. Living-Learning Community Initiative was derived from the Board of Governor's/President's Eight Major Goals for 2014-2015
 - 1. LLC Task Force is currently working on...
 - a. Reviewing retention data from previous LLC
 - b. Best Practices for LLC
 - c. Recommendation Plan for LLC
 - 2. Thomas and several other LLC Task Force members visited the University of Iowa to review their LLC model
 - 3. Current goal is to increase the number of LLCs from 7 to 15 with a 2-year goal for 30.
 - a. Future LLC themes include leadership, sustainability, cultural role of food, creative minds, and social justice.
 - b. These LLCs may or may not have a curricular component.
 - c. Additionally, there is a proposed plan to increase the LLC support, both with extra students and staff
- IV. Other discussion items
 - a. First-Generation College sections—suggestion made to review data before increasing the number of sections for 2015-2016
 - b. Searchpath tutorials will be revamped for 2015-2016
- V. Next meeting TBA
- VI. Conclude meeting—Crystal called the meeting adjourned at 3:40.